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Rural Scene

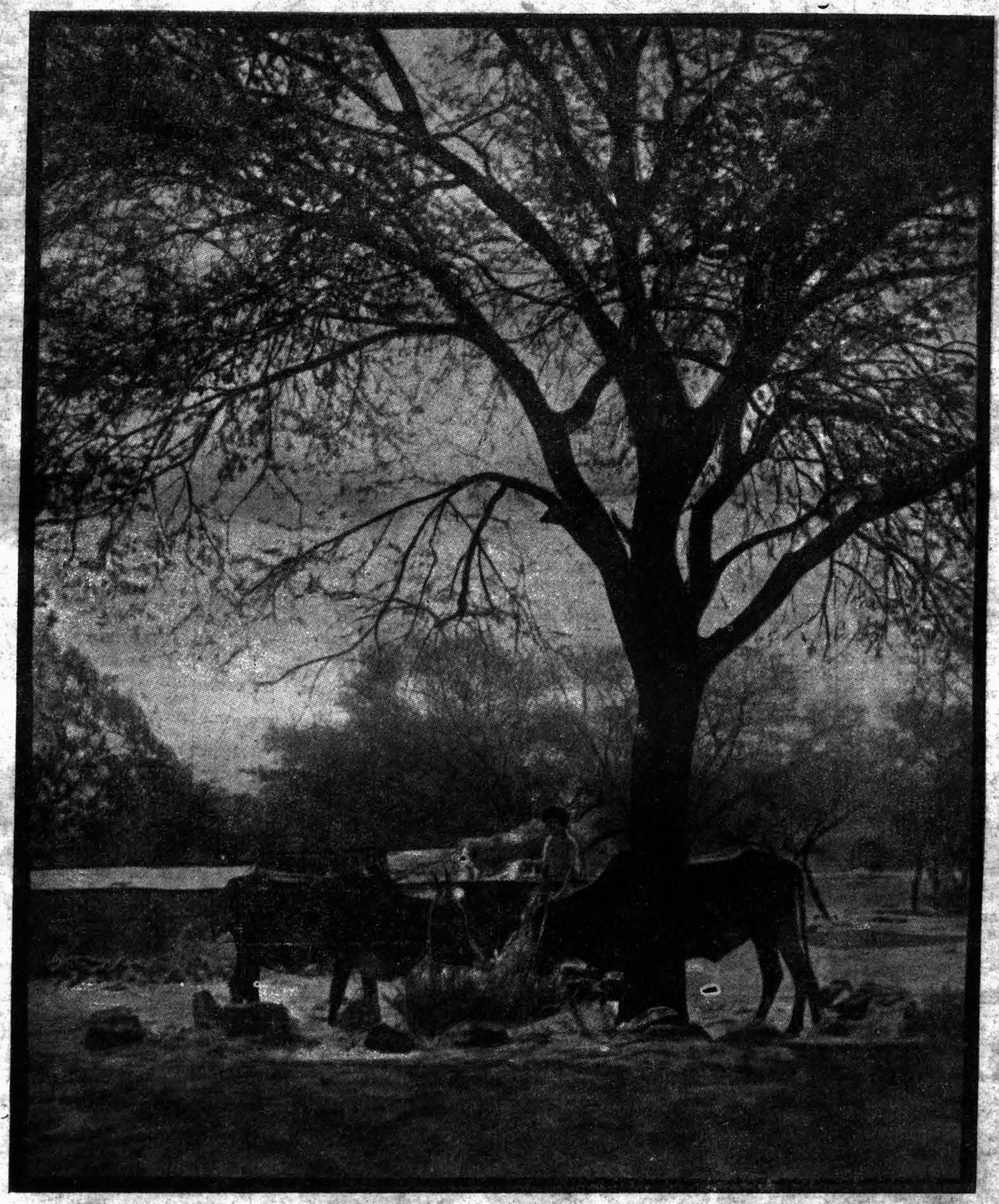


Photo: P. R. Shinde

Political Background Of Third World War

(See Page 3)

SHORT STORY

By Peter Courtenay

BIRTHDAY PRESENT

"Thirty thousand francs. That's a lot of money these days, you know, Stephan". The girl who spoke had one of those clear, slightly-affected, high-pitched voices that carry so far in a room.

Not that the bar at El Matodor is large. It is one of a hundred bar restaurants to be found at Continental watering-places. Gay, cosmopolitan, filled with a fashionable crowd at the right hours, stirring at all hours with a restless few from that peculiar strip of humanity which lies between the high—and the low-tide marks of society.

It was late now, and the place was empty, so far as I could see, except for the girl and Stephan, the barman.

"But you will agree, M'moiselle, that it is a lovely ring, and even at thirty thousand francs a bargain. That is a very fine emerald, you know".

Stephan held his hand up to the light. Even from where I was, lolling back in a deep settee in a secluded corner at the far end of the room, I could see the stone flash. It occurred to me that neither of them knew I was there.

There was more than a trace of his Levantine ancestors in Stephan's wheedling voice as he went on.

"See how beautiful it would look on your hand, M'moiselle. Put it on".

She held out her hand at arm's length and turned to admire the ring in a better light. I saw then that it was Penelope speaking.

I am never quite sure about Penelope. Tall, she is, with a figure like a page out of a fashion magazine. With dark hair and almost green eyes, she is so striking that everyone knows her by sight. Well educated, well dressed, with an abundance of natural charm, she seems to move in both worlds without detriment to herself in either. But sometimes I have wondered whether she is coming in with the tide or slowly ebbing out.

Penelope took off the ring and held it up to the light.

"I repeat", said Stephan, "it is a bargain. It is because you are so good a patron of this bar that I offer it to you first".

"I appreciate that, Stephan".

I chuckled. The inflexion of Penelope's voice was perfect.

"As I say", Stephan went on "the poor man, the refugee, to whom I lent the money, is dead. There is no money to pay me with, there are no relations, so the ring is mine to sell as I like".

"I don't doubt that for a moment, Stephan. But"—Penelope shrugged her shoulders—"I am not giving myself presents costing thirty thousand francs at the moment".

"But why give the present to yourself?"

Penelope's laugh rang through the room. "I don't know whether to be flattered or insulted", she said. 'Who on earth do you think is going to spend thirty thousand francs on me?"

I could see Stephan shrug his fat shoulders and imagine the sly look in his eyes as he said it.

"The young English Milord perhaps, who was with M'moiselle at lunch to-day".

"Stephan, you're priceless. Tim Harely, not likely. I shouldn't think he had that much to bless himself with in the world".

There was a more serious tone in Penelope's voice. I saw Stephan's palms wave. "Come, M'moiselle, make me an offer, then".

Penelope handed the ring back. "No", she said, "but if I ever start an antique shop in my old age, I'll give you a job as manager. You're wasted as a barman".

She got down from the high barstool. "I think it's adorable" she said, "and I'd love it. But any offer that I could make would be absurd.

She held out her hand at arm's length and turned to admire the ring in a better light.

So unless", she laughed, "you are interested in the instalment plan ——". She turned to go.

"That is it. That is it. It is the idea of a genius". Stephan was waving his hands in circles with excitement.

Penelope paused at the end of the bar. "What idea?" she said.

"What you said. The instalment plan. We will have a hire-purchase sale to you of the ring".

"You're not serious".

I could see that Penelope was startled out of her usual poise into an attitude of genuine surprise.

"Don't be ridiculous", she said. "At the rate that I could afford to give myself presents, it would take nearly the rest of my life".

"But you misunderstand me. I will explain. To-morrow, or the next day we will say, is her birthday. Some admirer is in the bar here with her, and perhaps wishes to buy her a present. I overhear the conversation, excuse myself, and produce the ring. Obviously for ten thousand, shall we say, it is a bargain. M'moiselle's friend cannot resist so beautiful a present for her so cheap. Perhaps later you have another birthday. Eh?"

The oily unction of Stephan's voice had to be heard to be believed. Penelope was standing taut as a bow string.

"Another ten thousand", the voice wheedled on, "and then only one more birthday and the ring is yours."

Stephan finished on a squeak of triumph. "In between times you hand the ring back to me".

I saw Penelope's head come up higher yet, as if to speak.

Stephan hurried on. "I know what you are going to say". He held his hand up. "What will M'moiselle's friend say if she is not wearing the ring the next day and every day until he goes away? That," he rubbed his fat hands, "I can provide for, too. I have an imitation, an exact copy, by chance".

"By chance?" Penelope's voice was the essence of icy incredulity.

"It belonged also to the refugee. For what purpose he had it I do not know. Maybe", Stephan pursed his lips, "he had borrowed money on it before and did not want his family to know. And we will have a little paper signed, all properly, saying that you are buying the ring from me for thirty thousand francs. That way we are all satisfied." Stephan beamed as he mopped the perspiration produced by enthusiasm on his fat, pink forehead.

Penelope stood staring at him with an expression like that of a child who has just seen a toad for the first time. Disgust mingled with curiosity.

I waited for the whip to crack. Poise and self-control won. She laughed softly.

"Stephan," she said, shaking her finger at him. "Stephan, you're a naughty little man. Then she went through the door on to the terrace.

I slipped out of a side-door into the street.

It was three days before I saw Penelope again. It was early in the evening, and the bar at El Matodor was nearly full. She was sitting at one end alone. I was just about to join her when Tim Harely arrived.

"Evening, Pen," he said. "Two very large champagne cocktails, please, Stephan."

Tim is by nature a very quiet and languid person. Something in his voice and the flushed colour of his face made me think.

"To-night," he said, "we celebrate. This afternoon I won, and won a packet, too. Zero three times running."

Penelope smiled at him.

The next minute I nearly choked over my Martini.

"That's grand, Tim," she said, "and celebrate we will, because to-night's my birthday, too. So you can buy me a nice fat birthday present out of your winnings, darling."

The rest was like seeing a play that one has watched being rehearsed. Penelope played her part without a hitch. Stephan too.

Tim admired the ring. Showed it to a man next to him, pulled out a roll of milles' and peeled off ten of them.

I could have thrown the contents of my glass into Stephan's grinning face. If I had, it would not have washed the grin away any quicker than Tim's next remark.

"In fact,' he said, 'It is such a bargain that I think I'll keep it for myself." He slipped the ring into his pocket. "To-morrow, my dear," he smiled at Penelope, "perhaps we will go shopping for your birthday present. Good night, Stephan." And with that he went out.

I nearly choked again at Stephan's face. Words could not describe it. Unknowingly, an American sitting next to me nearly hit the mark five minutes later. "Say, barman," he said, "what have you put in this drink? It's nearly as sour as your face."

I wondered many times, in the next few weeks, where Tim Harely could have been to ovehear that conversation at the bar, and speculated, too about Penelope. I could not believe that I had been so badly out in judging form as that.

And then one day a copy of 'The Times' provided the solution. Just the usual short account of the marriage of the Hon. Timothy Harely, younger son, etc., to Miss Penelope Lissen, and, heading the list of presents, "Bridegroom to bride. An emerald ring."

I left the paper lying on the bar. It seemed a pity that Stephan should not know. —('Tit-Bits')

MAN WITH THOUSAND FACES

The real face of R. S. Choorya

Mr. R. S. Choorya, founder-Director of Hansraj Theatres, is a versatile actor and playwright. Few will easily recognise his identity in the several quick-change roles he assumes in his plays. Here he is seen in the roles, respectively, (left to right) of a village school master, a Mullah, a Bhatji, an old woman and a bushman.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 21 April, 2017

Political Background Of Third World War

By F. A. RIDLY

Everything then points to the Third World War as between America and Russia. For the Russian "monopoly of foreign trade" bars half the world to an America faced, as never before with cataclysmic over-production. Whilst, conversely, America in the 20th century as formerly England in the 19th, bars the way to the power-lust for world-domination of the "Buonapartist" Empire.

In 1876, the great Bakunin, then at the very end of his stormy career made this gloomy prediction: "These vast empires, armed to the teeth, which daily accumulate fresh means of destruction, will inevitably end by devouring not only each other, but the entire world in an era of universal wars: what an outlook for mankind!" (*cp. E. H. Kaminsky—"Vie de Bakounine."*)

The world on which the great Russian revolutionary closed his eyes was just then passing from the nationalist to the imperialist stage. The Franco-German war of 1870-71 closed the historic era, which began with the French Revolution of 1789, the era of great nationalist wars, when the nation-state occupied the centre of the historic stage. In its stead there arose the sequential epoch of Imperialism, which witnessed the enlarged struggles of imperialist Powers, both inside and outside the European Continent, for political supremacy, no longer merely over Europe, but over the entire world; and for, simultaneously, economic hegemony in the fast-expanding world-market. In the military sphere the changeover was primarily noticeable in the colossal "race for armaments," which dominated the generation between 1871 and 1914; the first beginnings of which drew from the dying Bakunin the grim prediction already cited. Thereafter, in the language of astrology, the "sign" of Mars, the war-god, hovered persistently and ever more threateningly over western civilisation.

HISTORY DEFIED THE PROPHETS

At first, indeed, the precise nature of the volcanic eruption which awaited Europe and the European-dominated world was not immediately discernible. Had one asked for the current military and political opinion in the last years of the 19th century as to the precise direction and nature of the coming war, there is absolutely no doubt as to what the answer would have been: it was the war of Teuton and Slav: of the Second Reich of the Hohenzollerns versus the Tsarist Russian Empire of the Romanofs, which would undoubtedly have been designated.

And, it may be added, not only bourgeois politicians, but the leading revolutionary thinkers of the day undeniably held this view of the impending struggle: in particular, Engels, the outstanding military expert of the Labour movement, who, as against the Tsar and his Cossacks, took a violently pro-German stand. For was not Germany, with its fast-rising Social Democracy, the predestined land of the Social Revolution? It is, in fact, rather diverting to recall that, had the German-Russian war materialised, as Engels and countless others predicted, at the end of the 19th century, virtually the whole European "Left" would have regarded and supported it as a war for German democracy against Tsarist autocracy! (*cp. G. Mayer—Life of Friedrich Engels.*)

However, history did not choose that road. The Russian autocracy, weighed down by the pre-industrial incompetence of a society which (as a dying Russian revolutionary had phrased it with grim humour) "cannot even hang you efficiently," failed disastrously in its military try-out against Japan (backed by a Machiavellian England) in 1904-5. Hereafter, Tsarism retired from the centre to the wings of the political stage: from the role of a principal to that of a second in the coming War.

GERMANY CHALLENGES ENGLAND

The place of the still semi-mediaeval Empire of the Romanofs was taken by a far more powerful successor. For England, the dominant World-Empire of the 19th century, the oldest (except for the insignificant Holland) of the empires of the capitalist age, was now roused to a fever of alarm by the rapid industrial expansion and the open maritime and colonial ambitions in which Germany increasingly indulged since the fall of the still feudal regime of Bismarck in 1890. The Hohenzollern Empire itself adopted the programme of the bourgeois revolution as far as Imperialism was concerned. England, whose *real* National Anthem is "Rule Britannia," heard with horror and alarm the melodramatic utterance of the most powerful military ruler since Napoleon (William the Second of Germany): "Our future lies on the water." It had taken Britain the hardest struggle in her history to get rid of Napoleon, the last European ruler to aim at a similar domination. In 1898 and 1900 the German Reichstag passed Navy Bills deliberately aimed at securing that maritime "future." In the trenchant phraseology of the most brilliant German Socialist of that generation: England answered this challenge on August 4th, 1914, when she declared war on Germany." (*cp. Rosa Luxemburg—Junius Letter.*)

We are now coming down to recent history upon which detailed commentary is superfluous. For approximately half a century the world-politics of the Imperialist Age have centred around the conflict between England and Germany, the two greatest imperialist Powers of that era. Twice, in 1914 under the Hohenzollerns and the Second Reich, and in 1939, under Hitler and the Third Reich, German Imperialism has played for high stakes and lost them. To be sure, the Nazi theorists have correctly summarised the nature of this game of power-politics from their own point of view as, "World-Empire or Downfall." Twice Germany essayed to break out of the iron ring which British diplomacy and her own geographical situation had drawn around her: and twice she failed; narrowly the first time, more narrowly still the second time. To be sure, the Third Reich, apart from the intervention of the New World, would probably have beaten the Old World single-handed. For history, which does not take its information exclusively from "Ministries of Information," will probably hold with regard to the Second World-War that both the military and political honours lay with the vanquished.

However, be that as it may, 1945, which witnessed the end of German Imperialism, witnessed simultaneously the end of an epoch: that era in world-politics which centred around the antagonism between England and Germany. (N.B.—The almost universal belief on the part of the Left that 1914-1918 was *really* a war against "Prussian militarism," and 1939-1945 a "crusade against Fascism" proves nothing except the politically naive attitude of the Left. In this last connection we need only recite the immortal words of Rosa Luxemburg to the effect—we have not the exact text before us— that if the Maoris of New Zealand fought for British and the German Social Democrats for German Imperialism, the Maoris had, at least, the excuse that their grandfathers were cannibals, and not, like those of their German counterparts, Marxist philosophers! One shudders to think what the brilliant author of "The Junius Letter" would have said if she had survived to read some recent "anti-Fascist" effusions!)

So much for the political background to the first and second Imperialist wars. Now let us turn to the contemporary scene.

It is now transparently obvious to all who do not make a cult of political blindness that the Second Imperialist War, like its predecessor, has changed precisely nothing in the imperialist framework of contemporary society. Present events in Indonesia, Syria, and Egypt, and proximate events in India, prove, and will go on proving in the future, that we are still living in an imperialist age. (We will charitably assume that the "Atlantic Charter" got lost in the Atlantic!) Now, as prior to 1939, the world continues to be ruled by imperialistic power-politics: the old firms continue to deliver the same old brands of goods; only the labels and, in some cases, the addresses have changed! No more than after 1918 has the expectant world beheld the coming of the New Jerusalem descending from radiant skies.

What the world *is* actually witnessing is the beginning of a new "race for armaments," based, this time, on the new technical horror, the Atom Bomb. And, since in society as in Nature, acorns continue to grow on oaks and not on, say, church steeples, we must suppose that the same imperialist system, which has already produced two world-wars in our life-time, will end by producing a third. And, indeed, already within a few weeks of its inception, U.N.O. is adequately demonstrating, even more clearly than its predecessor, the League of Nations, in the pre-1939 era, that it is merely a diplomatic screen for the pre-war manoeuvres of the protagonists in the coming world-conflict, in which, for the third time in our life-time, the dice will be thrown for world-power.

NEW RIVALS ARE U.S. AND U.S.S.R.

Who will throw them? Certainly not England or Germany: for it is now sufficiently clear that when England and Germany fought to a finish it *was* the finish for both Empires. For Germany is no longer an Empire but, rather (literally) the ruins of one, whilst England is now an Empire on sufferance only, which means that she is really not an Empire at all: the twilight of the British Empire grows darker with each passing hour. However, we are again in an epoch which centres around a fundamental antagonism between two rivals for world-power. This is now the age of the "Big Two": U.S.S.R. versus U.S.A. It is true that the historic ring is not yet cleared. But after all, the ashes of the Third Reich are still warm, and the new post—and pre?—war era is still not a year old. But no one can mistake the general set-up or the already innumerable straws which show the way the contemporary wind is blowing.

For the world tends unmistakably towards unity: towards Wendell Willkie's "One World." And, in an imperialist age "One World" must be construed in terms of Power as one World-Empire. Which shall it be? U.S.A. or U.S.S.R. the economic Imperialism of U.S.A. or the "Buonapartist" military-bureaucratic-Imperialism of the new Empire founded on a revolution, like that of the original Buonaparte himself? At any rate, everything to-day points to the Third, and greatest, War of the Imperialist Era as one fought to decide which of the "Big Two" shall end in global supremacy as the "Big One."

For such is the reality of our age, based on Lenin's fundamental "law" of unequally developing Imperialism, which having made hay of the Hague Convention and the dreams of Liberals pre-1914, and similar hay of the League of Nations and the renewed dreams of Liberals pre-1939, will end by making hay of U.N.O. and the latest dreams of Liberals (or to-day, rather of Lib-Labs), at some unspecified but probably not very remote date in the future. For history always takes sides with the truth—in the long run.

(*N.B. In a summary article of this kind we need not waste time on the mythical third partner in the "Big Three," for we have already seen that England is no longer a World-Power. To be sure, England in the "Big Three" is something like the Holy Ghost, the "sleeping partner" in a still more august Trinity: "the love that binds the Father to the son", as St. Thomas canonically defined the Third Partner in the Trinity of mediaeval Christian theology. Though in the modern instance, Mr. Bevin's "love" for Mr. Vishinsky is not always so discernible!*)

Everything then points to the Third World War as between America and Russia. For the Russian "monopoly of foreign trade" bars half the world to an America faced, as never before, with cataclysmic over-production. Whilst, conversely, America in the 20th century as formerly England in the 19th, bars the way to the power-lust for world-domination of the "Buonapartist" empire.

THE RIVALS COMPARED

In brief, one can say that U.S.A. has in its favour superior productivity and the ideological friendship of virtually the entire capitalist and religius worlds, including the two most powerful of the lesser ruling classes, the British plutocracy and the Catholic hierarchy. Whereas U.S.S.R. has a superior productive *system* (as distinct from actual output) and the vast invisible assets of the support of the popular European masses and the anti-imperialist colonial masses throughout the world.

For, one must not fight the last war all over again, as is the usual practice of General Staffs. In the Third World-War, unlike the Second, Russia will have no capitalist allies capable of constituting an effective counterpoise to the Yankee Colossus. *Its only ally will be world-revolution*, Stalin, or his successor, will become effectively "Trotskyist," not for the first time in the case of Stalin! History not logic, will hereafter persistently push Stalin and Stalinism to the Left.

For the rest, the Third World War shows every sign of being both horizontal and vertical simultaneously. The lesser Powers will group themselves around their great originals, and the whole world will become involved. Spain (1986-9) will be the accurate microcosm which will be reproduced on a world-wide scale in a simultaneous confluence of imperialist, social, and ideological war the "Thirty Years' War" of declining capitalist civilisation, as its prototype was of the feudal age.

All the signs of the times point towards what we have written, in lack of any visible revolutionary alternative. If the spectacle is a grim one, it is a grim age that we inhabit. As we began this article, so we end it with the words of a great Russian revolutionary. Leon Trotsky ended a masterly contemporary analysis in his remarkable pamphlet: "The Coming World War" (1937), with words which are as applicable to-day as to the eve-of-war conditions when he wrote them:—

"Our prediction may appear somewhat gloomy, but that is not our fault. The skies of our epoch are neither rose-pink nor sky-blue. The ancient author, Spinoza, has warned us neither to laugh nor to weep but to understand."

These are fine words: I subscribe to them.

(Courtesy "Left").

Salute To Bhulabhai

by

Col. G. S. Dhillon

(Azad Hind Fouj)

At times human senses go numb to feelings of joy and sorrow, and that is exactly what happened to mine when the news of Shri Desaiji's death was broken to me in a Ward of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital where I lay after an operation of Appendix. I could not imagine him dead. I could not even make up my mind to send a condolence wire to Dhiruji until late at night. Could Desaiji ever die, or was it the passing away?

Phrases something like these, "Han thik hai"—"thik hai"—"kuchh fikar nahin"—"mahmuli bat hai"—"yeh to ho hi jaiga", "keep coming to my mind as I think of this great man. Legal luminaries who worked for fighting the I.N.A. case under Desaiji's leadership must be familiar with such phrases coming out of his smiling face, in a casual way, with nodding, moving, and rolling of head which would give one an impression that he had understood everything without having been told and he would like to waste no more time.

During recent days great men of India, irrespective of political or party affiliations, have paid tributes to this big man. The nation mourns this irreparable loss. As a false escape from the sorrowful feelings, my imagination takes me back to days when our trial had been ordered and we three accused met him for the first time in the historic Red Fort of Delhi. In his physical personality apart from his graceful aristocratic face which struck me most was the fine set of snow-white hair naturally arranged in a semi-circular way around the rear of his bald head. In thickness these were the finest hair I ever saw.

A Straight Question

For about first three or four visits, Desaiji did very little talking. He mainly listened then one day addressing all three of us said, "I have got a picture of your case. Details can be filled in easily. But before I start, I would like to know from you personally whether you wish me to take up your case or I am only forcing myself on you. In case you do want me, then I would like to know as to how much you wish to compromise between personal safety and the cause."

General Shah Nawaz replying on our behalf said, "Sir, when we joined the I.N.A. we pledged our lives to the cause. To-day, the pledge stands as it ever did. We tried our best to be nearest to death, it never came. The honour of the nation of the Azad Hind Fouj and of Netaji is to be saved and if in doing so these three lives go, it is just proper."

Desaiji said, "I am glad you have said so, or I would rather have you hanged than to defend you ignobly on the first and the most honourable charge of waging war against the King. As regards other charges I worry little, for they are actually a part of the first one.

I take it that your trial is the trial of the I.N.A. under all stages, of all men and that is what we will fight for, of course never forgetting about your persons which are equally precious to us. If you have confidence in me, then—as Mahatmaji says, 'Leave everything to me'."

Attack—Not Defence

Things were left to him and his colleagues, except giving them information which was carried on even during Court sittings by means of passing chits or whispering. It is a matter of common knowledge as to how the case was led. It was not defended; it was fought. In the art of war, we say, "Attack is the best defence", and these were exactly Desaiji's tactics. It appeared that the Court room had become a prolongation of the battlefield where the I.N.A. had been fighting. What the prosecution called "the crime" he called "the right."

It used to be a treat watching Desaiji sitting in the counsel's chair talking, listening, reading, and moving his right hand over his gracefully bald head all at the same time. Then suddenly and with surprising swiftness he would stand up or, if I can say spring up to object his opponent's points.

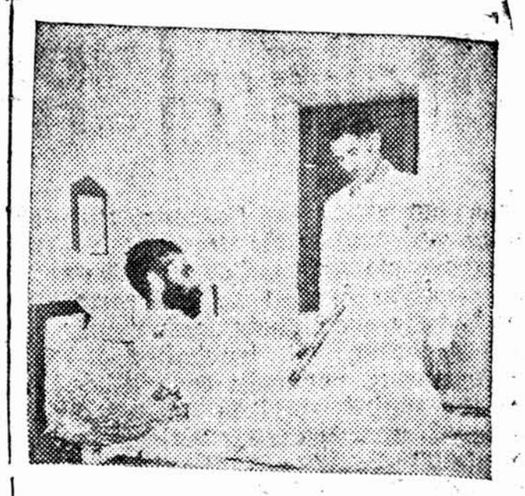
Normally he scored on his opponent, and I even as an accused did many a time feel pity for the prosecution counsel, for Desaijji would go to the extent of bullying him and making a fool of him in lawyer's learned ways. I can remember only about one or two instances when his opponent successfully pointed out certain mistakes and the Judge Advocate was very sharp in confirming them. Once smilingly Desaiji said, "Yes, mistake for a change"and sat down.

Sense Of Humour

His strong sense of humour was apparent at every stage of the trial. He would argue with the Court even up to the point of embarrassing them and yet never forgetting his position. When the Court would not change a certain ruling, he would say something like this and sit down. "I do not profess to teach law to you, Sir; I am here only to do my duty in helping you to administer justice."

He had a temper which he could always control according to the need of the situation, for I have seen his frowning face change to a sudden smile in order to extract himself out of a tight corner. But, there are limits to human qualities and towards the close of his defence address, he did go to the extent of saying, "I have nothing more to say: Justice or no justice."

Many glorious tributes have been paid to the late Bhulabhai Desai. This one from Col. G. S. Dhillon—one of three I. N. A. heroes whose defence marked the crowning glory of Bhulabhai's forensic career—will nevertheless evoke considerable interest. It sheds revealing light on motives that prompted Bhulabhai to take up the the historic brief.



Dhillon in hospital after being operated upon for appendicitis

Law And Life

BY

"Jarvim"

The Burden Of Proof

The vexed question as to whether the burden of proving an Exception to penal liability like that of self-defence, which the Evidence Act throws on the accused, is as heavy as the burden that lies on the prosecution to prove the guilt of the accused has at last been decided by a full bench of our High Court in Sakar Samuel's case. It is surprising that a basic question of so much importance in every criminal trial should have remained in a state of glorious uncertainty for three-quarters of a century as far as our own High Court is concerned.

In England, it has been held in what is well-known as Woolmington's case that the burden which in this respect law throws on the accused is not as heavy as that which lies on the prosecution to prove his guilt and this view has been adopted by the Calcutta, Rangoon and Allahabad High Courts. This view seems to be based on the theory that it is enough for the accused to adduce such evidence in proof of one of the Exceptions to penal liability as will cast doubt on the prosecution case. Disagreeing with this view, a full bench of our High Court has recently held that the decision in Woolmington's case cannot apply in India where there is a statutory definition of the term proved in the Evidence Act. A fact is said to be proved when a prudent man will act on the supposition that it exists. The same statutory definition must apply whether it is the prosecution which has to prove a fact or the accused, and we have no hesitation in saying that our Full Bench has arrived at a correct decision on the point.

But it is to be regretted that after taking this view, the Full Bench has, in the later part of its judgment, watered it down by stating that the probabilities on which a prudent man will arrive at the conclusion as to whether a fact is proved or not may, in certain cases depending on the circumstances of those cases, vary and the Court might not require as high a standard of probability as is required to prove the prosecution case. The strength of the evidence on which a prudent man would act must, of course, vary according to the circumstances of each case. It that is all that the Full Bench meant to say, it is a harmless platitude. But if they meant to say anything more than that, they have taken up a position which would be logically indefensible.

* * *

DIVORCE IN 32 SECONDS!

Indian Society is meant to be startled by the news that in America it takes on the average 32 seconds to get a divorce. But it is much better to face facts as they do in America than to compel unfortunate couples to go through all the farce we see in our Matrimonial Courts. Though parties are expected to resist divorce, nine-tenths of our divorce trials are ex parte and collusive. Yet in each case we compel the petitioner to swear that there is no collusion between the parties!

Constructive desertion though the husband and wife lived under the same roof, and mental cruelty caused even by the habit of excessive snoring, are fictions to which, in the East as well as in the West, law has had to resort to keep pace with the times. With woman becoming more and more independent-minded and claiming equality with man, the course of married life is naturally not as smooth as it was before when she willingly submitted to man's domination and the rate of divorce must naturally increase but there is nothing to be alarmed at in that. Though the United Nations Sub-Commission on the status of women which met recently in New York has recommended recognition of women's right to break off marriage, it is surprising that the question of simplifying the procedure for obtaining divorce does not seem to have engaged its attention.

* * *

BELIEVE IT OR NOT!

In the olden days one of our stipendiary Magistrates used to get the evidence of witnesses recorded in the following way:—

Witness A.B.— * *

In one case, the advocate appearing before him having pressed for the recording of a certain answer, the Magistrate said obligingly, "Alright, give him one more cross."

The vicar was taking a walk in the garden when he saw his gardener hand a slip of paper to a backdoor caller. His suspicions aroused, the vicar took a short cut, intercepted the caller, and demanded to see the communication. It was a betting slip.

The vicar sent for his gardener.

"So, John, you waste your money on horse racing? Oh, foolish John. Oh, doubly foolish John. Song of Love doesn't have an earthly, anyway."

*

At Paddington a man was taking an affectionate farewell of his wife. As a final gesture of his devotion he stepped into her compartment and began to wrap a rug round her knees.

Suddenly a porter slammed the door, and before the husband could descend from the carriage the train started. The last a bystander saw was an angry face and a pair of wildly gesticulting hands.

Then the bystander noticed that another man standing on the platform was laughing.

"It's old Charlie I'm laughing at," the man explained. "He told me he was getting rid of his wife for a week!"

*

In a county court a Scottish counsel met his match in a witness of his own nationality. The case concerned a suit of clothes. Counsel argued that his client was entitled to three months in which to pay his bill.

"Now, sir," said counsel to the witness, "had I ordered the suit instead of my client, would you have summoned me to court?"

"No," was the reply.

"And why not, pray?" asked counsel with a triumphant smile.

"Well, because, you see, I should have wanted cash down from you."

*

A YOUNG Lancashire couple had moved from their country cottage into a modern council house. All their goods and chattels arrived safely with the exception of the rainwater butt.

After the wife had pleaded with her husband that this was an asset to her household, he said he would go and get it that evening.

As he had not arrived home at 12.30 a.m. his wife became worried. At 1.15 a.m. the back gate slammed and there was a dull thud. In a few seconds the door opened, to reveal a dishevelled and perspiring husband, who remarked: "Ee, lass, 'A've ad job wit' toob. Thee didn't tell me it were full o' water."

Growth Of Nationalist Sentiment In Indian Army

How Barriers Created By British Administrators Have Been Swept Away

(By Prof. Dharm Pal, M.A., D. A. V. College, Lahore)

The growth of the nationalist sentiment in the Indian army is of great significance in the history of India's struggle for Independence. The impenetrable wall that had been built between the army and the Indian nation has crumbled at last. The nation-wide struggle for independence in 1942, the formation of the Indian National Army under the inspiring leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose, the historic trial in the Delhi Red Fort of the I.N.A. officers, the naval mutiny and its serious repercussions in Bombay are the chief landmarks in the transformation of the British Indian Army from an imperial to a national army. The nationalist sentiment which smoulders in the hearts of some among the Indian soldiers and officers, like embers ready to be fanned into flame, is one of the great political forces in the country. The imperialistic traditions of the Indian army have broken down under the stress and strain of the Second World War Mr. Attlee in his recent historic speech neither ignored nor underestimated the strength and force of the tide of nationalism which is sweeping over India and Asia. He frankly confessed that "the national idea has spread right through not the least perhaps, among some of those soldiers who had done such wonderful service in the war".

ATTLEE'S TESTIMONY

How has this wonderful change been brought about? The growth of the nationalist sentiment in the army cannot be attributed to any single precise cause. It is a compound of many things: War weariness, racial discrimination and responsiveness to the general mood of discontent in the country. As rightly pointed out by Mr. Attlee, "Nothing increases the pace and movement of public opinion more than a great war". There is no doubt about it that "the tide that runs comparatively slowly in peace, in war time becomes vastly accelerated and especially directly afterwards, because that tide is to some extent banked up during the war". India played an important part in winning the war. Her soldiers took part in the chief campaigns in different parts of the world. They participated in exciting expeditions up distant mountains, across broad rivers and through strange countries. They covered themselves with glory on the sunny plains of Italy, the deserts of Africa and the pathless jungles of Burma. This participation in world events displayed to the soldiers fresh ranges of thought and new modes of thinking. Their minds were opened to the reception of new influences, expanded into a higher growth, drawn towards wider spheres and raised into higher regions of thought. They were animated by hopes and stirred by emotions, to which they were previously strangers. They evinced an increasing jealousy of any monopoly of advantage in any respect being maintained in favour of the Europeans. The process of mental fermentation set in. They could not help asking the important question—Did India take part in the World War simply to defeat the reactionary forces of Fascism or did she also hope to shake off her shackles of slavery? These are searching questions and the Indian soldiers cannot remain deaf to the cry of "India for the Indians" that grows louder and louder. Mr. Attlee rightly remarked, "It is worth mentioning that twice in 25 years India has played a great part in the defeat of tyranny. Therefore, is it any wonder that twice she sent her sons to die for freedom—that she should herself have freedom to decide her own destiny"? Let us describe in detail how the barriers erected by the British administrators against the tide of nationalism in the Indian Army have been swept away:

POLICY OF COUNTERPOISE

POLICY OF 'COUNTERPOISE OF NATIVES AGAINST NATIVES'.—The Post"-Munity" schemes of Army reconstruction were vitiated by a deep-rooted distrust of the Indian soldiers. Some very strong precautions were taken against the danger of Mutiny—the greatly increased proportion of European troops maintained in India, the exclusively European character of the Artillery, and the new organisation of Indian regiments. But more important than anything else was the policy of the 'counterpoise of natives against natives'. This point was particularly stressed by a committee consisting of Sir John Lawrence, Sir Neville Chamberlain and Sir Herbert Edwardes which submitted its Report in 1858. The committee remarked; "Regiments of native infantry should be provincial in their composition and ordinary sphere of service. As we cannot do without a large native army in India, our main object is to make that army safe; and next to the grand counterpoise of a sufficient European force, comes the counterpoise of natives against natives. At first sight it might be thought that the best way to secure this would be to mix up all the available military races of India in each and every regiment, and to make them all 'general service' corps. But excellent as this theory seems, it does not bear the test of practice. It is found that different races mixed together do not long preserve their distinctiveness; their corners and angles, and feelings and prejudices get rubbed off, till at last they assimilate, and the object of their association to a considerable extent is lost. To preserve that distinctiveness, which is so valuable, and which, while it lasts, makes the Mahomedan of one country despise, fear, or dislike the Mahomedan of another, corps should in future be provincial and adhere to the geographical limits within which differences and rivalries are strongly marked".2

MYTH OF MARTIAL AND NON-MARTIAL RACES

Sir Charles Wood, the Secretary of State for India, made the following remarks about the general policy to be pursued: "The lesson, perhaps, which it is safest to draw from our disasters, is to employ no more Native soldiers than are absolutely necessary; to rely implicity on no particular race or creed, but to employ such as we require in due proportion; to place over them officers whom they like and can respect, which can only be done by employing officers who understand them; to maintain good discipline; but perhaps above all, to localize them as far as practicable".3 Sir Charles Wood stressed particularly the last point and remarked, "The troops which are constantly moving over different parts of India become imbued with the same spirit and similar prejudices, and are ready to stand by each other against anybody. They lose their local feelings and prejudices, and gradually become a kind of brotherhood".4

The Indian army remained an efficient weapon for the defence of the British Empire as long as its main function was to put down internal revolts, tame the fierce frontier tribes or to engage in punitive expeditions on the boarders of India. But the composition of the army had to undergo a radical change on account of the exigencies of the Second World War. The army had to be recruited, officered and organised on an entirely different method to meet the threat of total warfare. The post-Mutiny principles of army administration had to be discarded. The army is drawn from several sections of Indian society, but chiefly from the sturdy peasant clans of the North. The policy of segregation of different sections of Indian society could not be rigidly enforced. The unprecedented expansion of the army resulted practically in the break down of the distinction between martial and non-martial classes. Millions of youngmen hailing from different parts of India served in different departments of the army. For six years they faced the trials and tribulations of the war. Their lives were constantly enriched and broadened by their activities in all parts of world. Much mutual goodwill was engendered by a thrilling life shared in common in camp and on the battlefield. The rough comaraderie of the camp did much to increase the army's esprit de corps. This helped to break down the artificial barriers created by the British administrators between different sections of Indian society in the Indian army.

PREPONDERANCE OF EUROPEAN ELEMENT

(ii) THE EUROPEAN SOLDIER THE MAINSTAY OF THE STATE.—The fear of another Mutiny haunted the minds of British administrators. Thus Sir Richard Temple wrote in 1880—"The country must be garrisoned in a competent manner and the dominant points in it must be held. Small insurrections here and there from time to time are to be apprehended even during peace, and during political or military disturbance are sure to spring up in divers directions. Indeed, whenever anything occurs to shake the wonderful fabric of physical and moral power combined, which constitutes British dominion, and such things do occur sometimes, then disturbances arise in multitudes, none can say whence or in what manner, like insects on a hot day, or like the fabled warriors from the ground sown with dragon's teeth".5 The European soldier in India is the mainstay of the state. Hence after 1857 the strength of the Europeans was raised and of the Indians diminished; so that the Indians were not more than two to one of the Europeans. Moreover, the forts and arsenals and the cheif strategic points were held by Europeans. Great care was taken not to make Indian officers more efficient than they were before the Mutiny. Sir W. Denison, the Governor of the Madras Presidency, particularly emphasised this point while criticising the 'Irregular System' by which Indian officers were to act as Captains of Troops and Companies. "Now our main safeguard during the Mutiny was the utter inefficiency of the native officers of the Sepoy Regiments. There was not a man among them capable of taking command, or of acting otherwise than he had been accustomed to do. If, however, we submit them to a course of training, if we place them in command of companies and strive to make them really effective as company officers; if they are to lead their troops in action, and get this knowledge and sel-fconfidence, we shall find that we have raised up a class of men more dangerous than useful".6 Sir John Lawrence the Viceroy of India, refuted the charge that the English officers of the Indian Regiments in the new organization were deprived of their proper authority, which was transferred to the Indian officers. He maintained that the power, authority and prestige of the English officer were greater under that system than under the old one. "No doubt the authority of the Native officer has been also increased, but always in subordination to his English superior".7

DISTRUST OF INDIAN OFFICERS

Although the 'Irregular System' was introduced, yet in actual practice the distrust of Indian officers continued to be the guiding policy of the British administrators in India. Sir Frederick Roberts, Commander-in-Chief in India, in his Minute dated 18th May 1888 expressed his opinion strongly against the proposal to provide better type of military education to Indian officers as this would tend to decrease the influence and authority of British officers in the Indian Regiments. "The fact that Natives have on innumerable occasions behaved with conspicuous gallantry is beside the question. I am the first to admit the heroism and intrepid bravery shown by our Native soldiers of all ranks on many a hard-fought field where their fortitude and contempt for danger would have compared favourably with the troops of any nationality, but what I contend is, they have not proved that they possess the power of leading others, and that confidence in themselves which would enable them to incur grave responsibilities when occasion demands; qualities which are essential in a leader of men, and which a military education, however thorough and scientific, is powerless to impart. It is in these particular qualities that Natives, in my opinion, are immeasurably the inferior of Europeans; and it is their deficiency in this respect that would, I believe, bring about a disaster were our troops to engage an enemy officered by Europeans, while similar positions in our army were held in a large proportion by Natives".8

Such being the opinions held by the highest military authorities, it is no wonder that no great progress was made in the Indianization of the army. But this principle of preventing Indians from occupying positions of trust and responsibility could not be rigidly enforced during the Second World War. Thousands of highly educated youngmen served as officers in different departments of the army. These intelligent and educated officers observed current events with an appreciative insight. They were not out of touch with the nationalist and democratic movements of their country. They responded in large numbers to the clarion call of Subhas Chandra Bose to join the Indian National Army. Netaji was a force, an inspiration, a flag round which men would rally and fight. He had the magic to keep alive the enthusiasm of a whole population. The Indian National Army owed to these patriotic officers not only its self-confidence, and its unity of spirit, but its discipline and special training.

DENIAL OF SUPERIOR ARMS

(iii) POLICY OF WITHHOLDING ARMS OF PRECISION FROM THE NATIVE ARMY.—In 1867 a very interesting discussion took place as to whether the Infantry of the Indian Army should be supplied with arms of precision or not. Sir William Mansfield, the Commander-in-Chief in India, was in favour of the Indian Troops being furnished with arms of precision. He said that it was sheer injustice to judge of the loyalty of the sepoy simply by the test of the events of the Mutiny. "The long period of loyalty before that outbreak is forgotten, the services of a century in peace and war are ignored, we are desired to look at one class of events, and to put out of sight the opposite one which spreads over the entire history of the British Empire in India". The arguments, in fact, which were maintained against sepoys might in truth be held against any military body, not excepting the British army itself. "For it does happen that, in the course of long periods of time, owing to the imprudence or faults of Governments, the change of institutions, and other causes, all armies are at times liable to disorders touching on the crime of mutiny".9

Sir John Lawrence, the Viceroy of India, and the members of his Executive Council were, however, against the proposal of providing efficient weapons to the Indian soldiers. According to Sir William Norman the best mode of keeping thoughts of disaffection out of the

(Continued on Page 21)

BENDRE—THE KANNADA POET & PROPHET

By S. S. Hoskot

Poet, dramatist, essayist, Philosopher, educationist, social worker, Mr. Dattatraya Ramchandra Bendre who completed the fiftieth year of his life, last February, is the most arresting figure in the pageant of modern Kannada life and letters.

Born of humble parents in Shirhatti, a petty State in North Karnatak, Mr. Bendre was brought up by his mother and educated at Dharwar by her unaided efforts. Immediately after graduation he took service as a teacher in a local school and chequered though his career has been and manifold the activities that have claimed his attention he is known to this day as Bendre the teacher. Actually he is working as a professor of Kannada at the D.A.V. College Sholapur.

His personality is indeed unique. He reminds you of the of the Vedic Rishis-seers and poets—in the true sense. Like them he has penetrated to the innermost heart of reality and discovered the profound unity and joy that underlie the manifold forms of life. This vision of a life beyond life haunts him in his dreams and in his waking hours and he has dedicated his energies and the powers of his genius to its celebration.

Many-Sided Activities

He is thus a poet in no narrow sense of the term, not a mere creator of beautiful shapes and sounds. His role is rather that of a prophet, a religious preacher, an exponent of the secret and a teacher of the art of living. To him life itself is the most miraculous of poems, a hymn of joy in which the meanest flower, the birds and the beast as well as the sun and the stars and the sky partake. His function is to attune the spirits of men to this many stringed orchestra, to awaken their consciousness to this universal symphony.

His numerous public activities have been inspired by this central faith. He revived the "Jaya-Karnatak" a monthly journal of Dharwar, and made it a vibrant, symbol of the renascent spirit of a new Karnatak. He founded an association of young intellectuals and set their minds to seek inspiration not in a dead literary tradition but in the love and the beauty, the pathos and the humour that belong to life at all times. His numerous other activities have also been so many attempts on his part to incarnate into concrete palpable forms the unity and the love that he has discovered to be the secret of life.

His poetry also testifies to the same faith. Every one of his poems bears witness either directly or by implication to the poet's vision of the oneness of life. It is this vision that transforms the lowest of subjects into the sublimest poetry. His imagination partakes of the range and capacities of a force of nature. Like 'The bird of Time' that he has celebrated it can hark back into the hoary past and the unknown future. It can soar into the empyrein, "singing hymns unbidden till the world is wrought to sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not." It can descend to the earth, and can lay bare the sordidness of greed and cruelty, the wretchedness of the 'Thirtythree Crores' of poverty-stricken humanity that is India, the inequity of death and the blindness of outmoded customs that parade themselves under the name of religion.

Creative Imagination

His love poems illustrate this individuality of Bendre's outlook in its entirety and perfection. Rejecting the artificiality of the ornate and the poetical' he has forged for himself a medium at once fresh and vigorous from the racy dialects of the Karnatak Villages. He sings of

By PATIL PUTTAPPA

The Fiftieth Birthday of Syt. Bendre, the greatest living Kannada poet, who is also an essayist and playwright of the front rank, is being publicly celebrated all over Karnatak by his fans, who are legion. This appreciation of his work will give the reader an idea of the valuable contribution made by Syt. Bendre to modern Kannada literature.

the simple love of the lower middle classes and the peasants, but this simple love appears to his mystic vision to be a symbol of the love that pervades the universe. In a poem entitled the Dance Eternal' he calls upon his beloved to set aside the claims of everyday existence and dance to the rhythm of day and night. In another poem he laments over the degradation of love by men, God's own children, while the flowers, the stars and the whole universe jubilate spontaneous spiritual concord.

His poems of nature are also irradiated by his Pantheistic idea. His mytho-poetic imagination enables him to call up before our minds the phenomena of nature in terms that are at once human and non-human; to interpret their grandeur the wonder and the beauty that reside in them as forces of terror and joy to man. By virtue of it he gives us a new insight into the inxhaustible mystery of the powers and the objects amongst which we live and move and have our being. We see them with renovated eyes.

This mythologising imagination of Mr. Bendre is not a mere make-believe. Though akin to the naive faculty of childhood, it is a high function of the interpreting and creative mind. In the poem entitled 'Dawn' the birth of day becomes a symbol of the soul of eternal peace. In 'Shravana' the objects of nature appear to him as though dipped in colours of the rainbow. His descriptions of the moonlight bear the same dream character. The universe seems to him to partake in the festival celebrating the marriage of the moon and the moonlight.

At The Zenith

Poetry thus becomes with Mr. Bendre as with Shelley a revelation and it does not cease to be that even when he considers it as creation. For the poet in creating does but reveal. The more voluntary and conscious work of invention and execution, is regarded as quite subordinate in the creative process. The greatest stress is laid on the influence of inspiration. In exceptional moments visitations of thought and feeling elevating and delightful beyond all expression arise unforeseen. The province of the poet is to arrest these apparitions, to veil them in language, to colour every other form he touches with their evanescent hues and so to 'redeem from decay the visitations of the divinity in man.

His plays, short stories and essays display the critical side of his genius. His satire is hardly ever cruel. It is subdued by a rich and kindly humour, which takes the whole world for its province. The mutual jealousies of the mother-in-law and the daughter-in-law, the social ostracism and persecution that the unmarried girl has to suffer, the carefree and irresponsible college student, the plague of beggars—these are some of the subjects of his plays. His essays are on all subjects, from the groom that cleans the home and should clean the world to the ultimate problem of death. All of them attest to his capacity of reading in the transient and the ordinary attributes of eternal truth. His literary criticism reveals his intellectual balance and sharpness of judgment.

Poet Bendre

Unrivalled as have been the contributions that he has already made to the Kannada literature, Mr. Bendre's work is far being at an end. He is at the full zenith of his powers, and it is the hope of every Kannadiga that in the years to come he will enrich the kingdom of literature by even greater creations than have hitherto come from his pen.

Bridge Notes

Winning Contract

By Howard Schenken and Richard L. Frey.

Here is another unusual situation in which it paid to play "second-hand-high'.

West opened the heart king. South ducked this trick and the subsequent lead of the queen, winning the third round. Then South led a spade, intending to pass the first trick by playing dummy's nine if West followed with a low card. This would have forced East's queen, and, assuming that East made the best defensive play of underleading the diamond ace, South would have had no choice but to guess right because he would be beaten in any case if West held the diamond ace. Playing the diamond king would shut out West's queen and declarer would run five spades and two clubs to make his contract.

But West never gave declarer a chance, for on the first spade lead he put in the jack. Declarer couldn't afford to duck because West would be on lead with two good hearts, so he had to win the trick with dummy's king. Now, no matter how he played, he couldn't bring in the spades. He led to his club King to play a low spade and finesse against West for the queen. East won and led another club and the club ace was the last trick declarer took. West's play of the spade jack had meant the difference between collecting a 500 point penalty and letting the opponents make game and rubber.

Both sides vulnerable
South dealer

NORTH
♠ A K 10 9 6 3
♡ 5 4
◇ 8 7 2
♣ 9 5

WEST
♠ J 5
♡ K Q J 9 6
◇ Q 4 3
♣ Q 10 8

EAST
♠ Q 8 2
♡ 10 7
◇ A 9 5
♣ J 7 6 3 2

SOUTH
♠ 7 4
♡ A 8 3 2
◇ K J 10 6
♣ A K 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♡	Pass	1♠	Pass
2 N.T.	Pass	3♠	Pass
3 N.T.	All Pass		

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HOW UNO CAN KEEP THE PEACE

By Louis Fischer

The U.N.O. is a living organism and unless it grows and acquires new powers to act, it will atrophy and die like its predecessor 'The League of Nations,' which was interred last month, almost without notice, certainly without lamentations.

NEW YORK, (BY CABLE)

Seen in the perspective of its brief life, the United Nations organisation has, by chance, been confronted with the key problem of the peace: the relation between big powers and small powers. That is the real issue in the UN discussions about Iran and Spain.

Many people think the relations between the Big Three will determine whether there is war or peace. Stated that way, it is misleading. Actually, the dealings of the Big Three with small, weak states will determine their dealings with one another.

Pawns On The Counter

America, Russia, and England need never come into conflict if they do not come into conflict over Manchuria, Korea, Iran, Turkey, Trieste, Germany, Greece, Poland, or Spain.

Thus the UN has already tackled the primary possible cause of another worldwar: the acts of major powers towards lesser powers.

We have been witnessing in the UN sessions an attempt on the part of several members of the Security Council to devise a technique for handling the biggest problem of our time: the desire of a powerful nation to dominate a feeble nation.

One such technique was proposed by Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko. He said at the session on April 15, "I think the security Council cannot take a decision on situations or disputes of the kind referred to in the Charter without having heard both the parties immediately concerned." Accordingly, if one party refuses to be heard and "takes a walk" then the UN can do nothing. Or if one party, the small nation, under duress, withdraws its complaint, the whole matter is dropped.

New Non-Intervention

This technique would condemn the UN to non-intervention in conflicts between aggressors and their victims. Under such circumstances, the UN would play no part in regulating the relations between big and small powers. It would therefore play no part in preserving the peace.

Mr. Gromyko's technique failed to receive the approval of the majority of the Security Council.

And hcosetecnique has been consistently advocated by Lieutenant Colonel W. R. Hodgson, the delegate for Australia. He urges investigation and inspection. This has tremendous value. Inspection by the UN would be a long step towards the internationalism without which there can be no peace.

Colonel Hodgson wishes to send a commission of inquiry to ascertain the facts in any area which may endanger world tranquillity. A government that barred the investigators would put itself in the wrong with democratic public opinion everywhere.

After conducting their studies, the investigators would return to the UN and report. Meanwhile, the bright spotlight of world attention would be on the danger area. The offender would thereby be warned that he is inviting retaliation from the family of nations.

Key To Atom Problem

Inspection is also the key to the problem of the atom bomb. There are those who have advocated transferring the control of the atom bomb to the UN. But how could the UN exercise control if it did not have the right to inspect to all countries to see whether they were manufacturing the bomb and thus infringing the UN's proposed monopoly to produce the bomb? The State Department's plan for an international Atomic Development authority (the Lilienthal-Acheson Plan) includes provisions for minimum's inspection in all countries.

Inspection by the UN would, of course, trespass on national sovereignty. That is the great virtue of the Australian's proposal. The UN would begin by investigating small countries like Spain and go on from there to investigate what big governments were doing.

Power Will Give Life

At all its sessions so far the UN has been groping for instruments which would make it effective. Today, the UN has no power except the vast yet uncertain influence of public opinion. The UN's actions now depend on the support which it gets from its nation members, and if these choose to withhold their support, the UN, of itself, is impotent.

Inspection would give the UN an ndependent source of power.

Inspection and investigation could be invaluable in many situations. It would enable a small country to use the UN as a buffer between itself and a troublesome neighbour. A colony could call for inspection of the misdeeds of its imperial master. Or a colony might ask the UN to determine whether it was ripe for independence. UN investigators could do the spade work in the re-allocation of markets and disputed raw materials like oil.

If inspection became the approved UN method of handling disputes, the ve o in the UN charter which at present robs the organization of much of its potential effectiveness would become meaningless. No nation could say, investigate everybody else but not me. That nation would be proclaiming that it had something to hide.

Prime Requisite

Inspection is the prime requisite of world government. The basic characteristic of any government is its relationship to the individual citizen. Every city, county, provincial, and federal government is in touch with all its citizens. If the federal authorities in Washington, D.C., for instance, could act upon individual Americans only through the governments of the 48 states there would be no American national government. The United States federal administration can tzx, conscript, and legislate directly for each resident of the 48 states. That makes it a government.

But the UN cannot do anything about an individual American or Chinese or Soviet or British citizen. It has no contact with individual citizens. The UN is made up of governments. That is why it is not a government itself. It is a league of national governments.

Now the power of universal inspection would begin to give the UN A relationship towards conditions and events within countries. The UN could say, for example, we have found a plant in Exland which manufactures atomic bombs, or, we discover that Whyaria is carrying out a tremendous armaments program which can only be for aggressive purposes, or we see that some citizens of Zeelivia suffer from unfair discrimination.

The Alternatives

It will probably be years before the UN actually possesses these wide inspection right. But it is significant that in its first months of life it has already revealed the need of such rights.

The UN faces two alternatives: either it will change rapidly to meet innumerable pressing requirements, or it will remain unchanged, stagnate, and fail. The UN is a living organism and unless it grows and acquires new powers to act it will atrophy and die, like its predecessor, the League of Nations, which was interred last month almost without notice and certainly without loud lamentations.

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Jawahar For Faridkote Today

KACHRU TO ACCOMPANY DESPITE BAN

Nehru To Proceed To Srinagar To Inquire Into Abdullah Episode

NEW DELHI, May 25 (UPI): Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, President, All-India States People's Conference, will leave for Faridkote to-morrow to enquire into the recent disturbances in that state. He will be accompanied by Mr. Dwarkanath Kachru, General Secretary, All-India States People's Conference.

It might be recalled that when Mr. Kachru was deputed by Pandit Nehru sometime ago to enquire into the causes of disturbances in Faridkote, he was not allowed to enter the State's boundaries by the State authorities. This formed the subject of a strong protest by Pandit Nehru. This time, Mr. Kachru will, if necessary, defy the ban imposed on him.

Important developments are likely to take place in view of the fact that Pandit Nehru was also informed on that occasion that his presence would not be wecome to Faridkote State authorities.

From Faridkote, Pandit Nehru is likely to visit Srinagar to personally enquire into the causes which led to the arrest of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, Vice-President of the All-India States People's Conference.

INDIA V. M.C.C.

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GANDHIJI AND AZAD FOR MUSSOORIE

NEW DELHI, May 25. (A.P.I.): Mahatma Gandhi is going to Mussoorie on Monday, May 27, for a brief change. He will be back in Delhi about the time negotiations are resumed.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Congress President, is also going to Mussoorie on Monday.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is flying to Bombay on Monday.

KITCHLEW LEAVES FOR FARIDKOT

LAHORE, May 25 (A.P.I.): Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew, President, Punjab Provincial Congress Committee, accompanied by the Secretary of the P.P.C.C. left today for Faridkot, for an interview with the Chief Secretary of the State, on the question of Satyagraha now in progress in Faridkot.

LEAGUE PREMIERS INVITED

NEW DELHI, May 25. (A.P.I.): Mr. S. Suhrawardy, Chief Minister of Bengal, Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, Premier of Sind, and Sir Mohammad Saadullah, leader of the Muslim League Party in the Assam Assembly, have been specially invited to attend the meeting of the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League which is being held in Delhi on June 3.

ELEVENTH HOUR MOVE TO CALL OFF U.S. RAIL STRIKE

Union Leaders Undertake Resumption On Truman's Terms

WASHINGTON, May 25 (Reuter): An eleventh hour move to call off the nation-wide railway strike, now strangling food supplies to India and other hungry nations, has been made by strike leaders. Senator Claude Pepper, a prominent Congressmen, disclosed to-day that at a dramatic early morning conference, the railwaymen's President, Mr. A. F. Whitney, suggested a compromise aimed at getting trains running again before 9 p.m. (G.M.T.) (1-30 a.m. I.S.T.)—the time limit set by President Truman for Government to take over the Railways.

Senator Pepper said that under the plan which was presumably endorsed by the other strike leader, Mr. Alvaney Johnston, the Railwaymen would return to work under a contract between Government and the Union, pending settlement of the contract between the Unions and Railway companies.

The leaders of the two striking Railway Unions have sent a letter to President Truman offering to send the 250,000 strikers back to work immediately.

The letter stated that the two Union leaders were ordering the men back to their jobs on the basis of the compromise recommendation made by the President.

The letter expressed confidence that the President would not permit reprisals on strikers and declared "Our men wait only your word."

There has been no immediate reaction in White House quarters to this development, and it is not expected that President Truman will take any action before his address to the joint session of Congress due at 9 p.m. to-night.

Earlier (APA) message says: President Truman to-day directed the breaking off of further efforts to mediate in the rail dispute with the striking unions. At the same time the President began efforts to reach agreement with 18 non-striking unions.

MAIN ISSUES

A.P.A. adds:—

NEW YORK, May 25 (APA): These are the principal issues in the nation-wide railway strike: Union's demand wage increase of 1 dollar 44 cents a day. Arbitration fact-finding boards recommend increase of 1 dollar 28 cents a day; there are other issues, such as demands for working rules changes, but the wage issue is the main stumbling block; the first demand of the Railwaymen made last July was for a minimum daily wage increase of 2 dollars 50 cents a day, but this was subsequently reduced.

(Earlier U. S. Strike News on Page 13.)

Maulana Azad, Congress President and Pandit Nehru, President-elect, arriving at Viceregal Lodge for consultation with Lord Wavell.

Congress-League Pressure Politics

Cabinet Mission Hopeful Of Acceptance Of Proposals

DECISION EXPECTED IN A FORTNIGHT

(FROM OUR CORREPSONDENT)

NEW DELHI 25.

The Congress resolution is a counter-blast to Mr. Jinnah. It is incomplete as it does not indicate the Congress attitude in case its demands are not met or the Cabinet Mission declines to fill in the details of the "picture". The Congress resolution should be welcomed as it does not reject the British plan outright.

AVOIDING PAST MISTAKE

These are some of the comments I heard on the Congress resolution on the British constitutional plan released from Gandhiji's camp last evening.

Let me amplify these reactions. In July 1945 the Congress accepted the Wavell Plan Number 1 'in toto' and even submitted a panel of its nominees to the Viceroy. The Congress felt that the Simla conference of 1945 was wrecked because the League rejected the Wavell Plan. The Congress, it is asserted here, would not repeat last year's mistake and would not show its hand until the League's attitude was fully known.

What does the Congress resolution do? It outlines the Congress position as it existed at the Simla conference earlier this month. It defines the Congress stand and points out the shortcomings in the plan 'vis-a-vis' that stand.

Precisely the same thing was done by Mr. Jinnah in his statement issued from Simla on Wednesday last. Both the Congress and Mr. Jinnah do not reject the plan outright but seek elucidation and explanation for filling up of the lucanae in the British plan. Both reiterate their position regarding certain fundamentals in the British plan.

The position emerging from the Congress resolution and Mr. Jinnah's statement is as follows: The Congress demands a strong Centre even though it may be a limited Centre. Mr. Jinnah holds that the Centre provided in the British plan is too strong and has the potentialities of becoming stronger. The Congress stands for a voluntary grouping of the provinces and asserts that the Cabinet Mission's interpretation is a negation of Provincial Autonomy conceded under the plan. Mr. Jinnah claims that the plan provides too many loopholes for the Provinces to opt out of the regional centre. Having committed itself at Simla, the Congress does not object to the principle of grouping nor does Mr. Jinnah to the principle of a Union Centre.

TUSSLE WITH STATES

In regard to the States, the tussle is between the Congress and the Princes the latter of whom manoeuvred for a position for themselves which is disapproved by the Congress. Paramountcy shall now be retained by the British during the interim period after which, it will lapse, the States becoming independent. Their representation in the Constituent Assembly will be determined by themselves and Congress circles feel that the Nawab of Bhopal's declaration of constitutional reforms in the States has been a paper declaration so far.

Against this combined demand for elucidation, the Cabinet Mission has declared in unmistakable language that the British plan is self-explanatory and that it is the last word as far as the British Government is concerned and that the Mission would not attempt to elucidate it, much less to alter or amend it, to suit either party.

INTERIM CENTRE

As for the Interim Centre the Congress has reiterated its 1942 demand that an Interim Centre must be fully sovereign in fact, though not in law, reflecting the shape of independence to come. Mr. Jinnah is totally opposed to such a Centre as in his opinion such a Centre would irrevocably wreck his demand for a partition. As at the time of Cripps' negotiations so also now, the British Government has declared that it could not change the character of the Interim Centre. The Congress and Mr. Jinnah, however, both connect the inerim Centre with a long-range settlement. The Congress claims that the connected problems involved in the establishment of a Provisional Government and Constituent Assembly be viewed together. Mr. Jinah likewise would 'inter alia' join the Interim Centre provided the League's demand for Pakistan was accepted.

Exactly two months ago the Cabinet Mission arrived here with avowed object to assist the Congress and the League to resolve the deadlock. After seven weeks' discussions and negotiations the Mission evolved a plan. That plan has not been rejected outright nor has it been accepted in its entirety. In short the Mission finds itself in the same position as on March 24—the day it arrived here.

NO RESULTS

Judging from results its labour so far has been an utter waste. The deadlock remains as complete as ever. The communal gap has been further widened and he Congress-League differences have been accenuated since the Mission's debut two months ago.

The Mission declared on its arrival that it was determined to succeed. Its next move therefore will be watched with interest. A reference in this connection is made to Sir Stafford

(Continued on Page 17.)

Mission's Reply To Congress-League Objections

STATUS OF INTERIM GOVT. DEFINED

They Also Ran

MANILA (Reuter):: Former U. S. President Herbert Hoover, roundly defeated by the late Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932, was introduced during his world food investigation tour to retiring Philippine President Sergio Osmena, roundly defeated by President-Elect Manuel A. Roxas.

Said Hoover to Osmena: "I know exactly how you feel."

Iran Prepares For Elections

Azerbaijan Commission Returns To Teheran

TEHERAN, May 25 (Reuter): M. Ghavam-es-Sultaneh, Prime Minister of Persia, to-day ordered preparations of elections to the country's 15th legisature postponed while Persia was occupied by foreign troops.

"Since Persia is now completely evacuated, there is no longer any reason to postpone the elections which will be held very soon", he said.

The Prime Minister added that the Cabinet had approved the necessary budget so that all porvincial authorities could receive the necessary documents and instructions as soon as the question of the "home rule" province of Azerbaijjan was settled.

The Persian Government commission which went to Azerbaijjan to report on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the province returned from Tabriz to Teheran in a Russian plane to-day. The Commission was expected toreport to the Prime Minister immediately.

The only report which the Commission has issued so far was one stating that according to "trustworthy people" questioned in the centres visited, Soviet troops had evacuated Azerbaijan on May 6. This was the report transmitted to the Security Council of the UNO and considered by them on Wednesday to be inconclusive.

Yesterday M. Ghavam-es-Sultaneh said he has received notification from the Soviet Ambassador that Russian evacuation of Persia was completed on May 9.

EMIR ABDULLAH CROWNED KING OF TRANSJORDAN

AMMAN, May 25 (UPA). Onehundred-and-one guns thundered a volley from Amman's Citadel today, proclaiming new Monarch of Transjordan 64-year-old Emir Abdullah, as he signed a historic parchment elevating Transjordan's status to a hereditary Parliamentary Kingdom.

SALUTE OF 101 ROUNDS

Reuter adds: "Girls from the palace harem lifted their veils to deep through the balcony trellis to watch the arrival of the dignitaries.

A battery of anti-tank 25 pounders taken to Normandy by the Sixth Airborne Division on D-Day fired a salute of 101 rounds.

ADHERENCE TO U. N. PRINCIPLES ASSURED

Reuter alds: 'In his first speech from the throne the King said: "Our country will maintain the good relations with our Ally, Great Britain, and all the Allied Nations, insuring national co-operation and adherence to the principles of the United Nations. Palestine, the afflicted Arab country, will be given our constant attention."

U.N.O. Security Council And Soviet Occupation

NEW YORK, May 25 (Reuter): If the Persian Government officially notifies the U.N.O. Security Council that it is satisfied that Soviet occupation has been completed the Security Council is expected to remove this part of the Persian complaint from its agenda early next week, it was reported here last night.

Court Martial's Findings

BOMBAY, May 25. (API).

The court martial trying leading Aircraftsman Arthur William Attwood on the charge of endeavouring to persuade other members of the camp at Drigh Road Karachi, to join in a mutiny, today arrived at its findings, which are being communicated to the confirming authority at Bangalore.

Grouping Of Provinces An Essential Feature

FREEDOM TO OPT OUT ONLY AFTER ELECTIONS UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION

Mutual Negotiation To Determine Manner Of State Representation

SCHEME CAN ONLY SUCCEED IF WORKED IN SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION

NEW DELHI, May 25. (A.P.I.): The Cabinet Delegation and the Viceroy in a statement issued to-day, after considering the statements of Mr. Jinnah and by the Congress Working Committee, says: "The scheme stands as a whole and can only succeed if it is accepted and worked in a spirit of co-operation.

"The Delegation say that it is agreed that the Interim Government will have a new basis. That basis is that all protfolios, including that of the War Member, will be held by Indians: and that the members will be selected in consultation with the Indian political parties.

"These are very significant changes in the Government of India, and a long step towards independence. HMG will recognise the effect of these changes, will attach the fullest weight to them, and will give to the Indian Government the greatest possible freedom in the exercise on the day-to-day administration of India".

The Delegation adds: "As the Congress statement recognises, the present constitution must continue during the Interim period; and the Interim Government cannot, therefore, be made legally responsible to the Central Legislature. There is, however, nothing to prevent the members of the Government, individually or by common consent, from resigning, if they fail to pass an important measure through the Legislature, or if a vote of "no-confidence" is passed against them".

The Delegation concludes: "There is, of course, no intention of retaining British troops in India against the wish of an independent India under the new Constitution; but during the Interim period, which it is hoped will be short, the British Parliament has, under the present constitution, the ultimate responsibility for the security of India; and it is necessary, therefore, that British troops should remain.

TEXT OF THE STATEMENT

The following is the full text of the statement by the Cabinet Delegation and His Excellency the Viceroy:

"The Delegation have considered the statement of the President of the Muslim League, dated May 22, and the resolution dated May 24 of the Working Committee of the Congress.

"The position is that since the Indian leaders, after prolonged discussion, failed to arrive at an agreement, the delegation put forward their recommendations as the nearest approach to reconciling the views of the two main parties. The scheme stands as a whole and can only succeed if it is accepted and worked in a spirit of co-operation.

"The delegation wish also to refer briefly to a few points that have been raised in the statement and resolution.

ISSUE OF SOVEREIGNTY

"The authority and the functions of the Constituent Assembly, and the procedure which it is intended to follow are clear from the Cabinet Delegation's Statement. Once the Constituent Assembly is formed and working on this basis, there is no intention of interfering with its discretion or questioning its labours. His Majesty's Government will recommend to Parliament such action as may be necessary for the cession of sovereignty to the Indian people, subject only to two matters which are mentioned in the statement and which we believe are not controversial namely adequate provision for the protection of the minorities (paragraph 20 of the statement) and willingness to conclude a treaty with His Majesty's Government to cover matters rising out of the transfer of power (paragraph 22 of the statement).

"It is a consequence of the system of election that a few Europeans can be elected to the Constituent Assembly. Whether the right so given will be exercised is a matter for them to decide.

BALUCHISTAN DELEGATE

"The representative of Baluchistan will be elected in a joint meeting of the Shahi Jirga and the non-official members of the Quetta Municipality.

"In Coorg the whole Lsgislative Council will have th e right to vote, but the official members will receive instructions not to take part in the election.

"The interpretation put by the Congress resolution on paragrah 15 of the statement to the effect that the provinces can, in the first instance, make the choice whether or not to belong to the section in which they are placed does not accord with the Delegation's intentions. The reasons for the grouping of the provinces are well-known, and this is an essential feature of the scheme and can only be modified by agreement between the parties. The right to opt out of the groups after the Constitution-making has been completed will be exercised by the people themselves, since at the first election under the new provincial Constitution this question of opting out will obviously be a major issue and all those entitled to vote under the new franchise will be able to take their share in a truly democratic decision.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

"The question of how the States representatives should be appointed to the Constituent Assembly is clearly one which must be discussed with the States. It is not a matter for decision by the Delegation.

"It is agreed that the Interim Government will have a new basis. That basis is that all portfolios including that of the War Member will be held by Indians; and that the members will be selected in consultation with the Indian political parties. These are very significant changes in the Government of India, and a long step towards independence H. M. G. will recognise the effect of these changes will attach the fullest weight to them, and will give to the Indian Government the greatest possible freedom in the exercise of the day-to-day administration of India.

OPTION TO MEMBERS

"As the Congress statement recognises, the present Constitution must continue during the interim period; and the Interim Government cannot, therefore, be made legally responsible to the Central Legislature. There is, however, nothing to prevent the members of the Government, individually or by common consent from resigning, if they fail to pass an important measure through the Legislature, of if a vote of "no-confidence" is passed against hem.

There is, of course, no intention of retaining British troops in India against the wish of an independent India under the new Constitution; but during the Interim period, which it is hoped, will be short, the British Parliament has, under the present Constitution, the ultimate responsibility for the security of India; and it is necessary, therefore, that British troops should remain.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

NEW YORK COTTON (JULY)

NEW YORK, May 25.

Previous Closing	27.78
Today's Opening	27.82
Difference	+4
Today's Closing	27.88
Difference	+10

All Kolhapur Politicals Released

MIRAJ, May 25. (U.P.I): All political prisoners numbering about 185 were released to-day by the Kolhapur Government.

"No Change In Position"

Congress Reaction To Mission's Clarification

NEW DELHI, May 25 (API): The Cabinet Mission's latest statement clarifying certain points leaves the position where it was is the opinion held in Congress circles. While no member of the Congress Working Committee is prepared to comment on it pending the consideration of the statement by the Working Committee, unofficial comment is that the explanation regarding grouping of provinces is unsatisfactory and exposition regarding the Provisional Government its status, scope and powers does not take the position much beyond the 1945 Simla Conference's formula, though it is agreed that this time there is an assurance that "H. M. G." will recognise the effect of these changes, will attach the fullest weight to them and will give to the Indian Government the greatest possible freedom.

Meanwhile Mahatma Gandhi is publishing an important article in the "Harijan" to-morrow giving his interpretation of clause fifteen read with sub-section five of the British Cabinet Mission's first statement asserting that that is the only interpretation possible of the document.

Littleton Speaks Of

BRITAIN'S SACRED OBLIGATION TO INDIANS

"We Shall Have To Hang Our Heads In Shame If Civil War Rage In India

LONDON, May 25. (Reuter): Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Member of Parliament for Aldershot and former President of the Board of Trade, speaking at Chippenham to-night, said:—

"If we scuttle and skedaddle in India, we shall have reasons to hang our heads in shame if that country is plunged into all the horrors of internal strife and civil war".

Mr. Lyttelton added: "Don't let the achievements which have brought peace to India and have reduced famine and disease, so that fifty million have been added to her population during the last decade, become dimmed by speeches of many who talk about it to-day. We have a SACRED OBLIGATION TO THE PEOPLES OF INDIA, AND IF WE LEAVE INDIA WE MUST BE ASSURED THAT WE LEAVE HER IN PEACE. Our obligation cannot be discharged merely by turning our backs on the country and hoping for the best".

RECORD FROM ALAMEIN TO BALTIC

Monty's Autograph Book To Be Published

LONDON, May 25. Field Marshal Montgomery's own autograph book in multiple is to be passed on to posterity. It is to be published in facsimile, says the "Evening Standard."

The signatures are all there—and what signatures!

In cover format and general appearance it will be Monty's personal record from Alamein to the Baltic.

The place of honour goes to Mr. Churchill. He has several pages of handwriting, all reproduced in script, giving his own impressions of the war. Great war leaders, British, American and French, have signed some with comments.

When Montgomery received the surrender of the German Commanders, they signed too.

There is a foreword by the Field-Marshal and, of course, his own signature.

FIRST HARIJAN SPEAKER IN INDIA

Madras Assembly Honours Sivashanmugam Pillai

MADRAS, May 25 (API): Mr. J. Sivashanmugam Pillai, nominee of he Congress Party, was unanimously elected Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly to-day.

Mr. Pillai is the first Harijjan in India to become the Speaker of a Provincial Assembly.

The members of the Muslim League party abstained from participating in the election of the Speaker and entered the Assembly Chamber in a body only after Mr. Pillai was decared duly elected.

Mr. H. S. Town, Sheriff of Madras and Leader of the European Group and Mr. Mohammad Ismail Leader of the Muslim League Party, assured Mr. Pillai full co-operation on behalf of their parties.

Srimati Ammanna Raja was unanimously elected Deputy Speaker. Mr. V. V. Giri, Minister for Labour, and four other members of the Assembly who were absent yesterday were sworn in this morning.

The Madras Legislative Council (Upper House) has unanimously elected Mr. R. B. Ramakrishna Raju as President.

ADMINISTERING FREE INDIA

Youth Of The Country Must Have Necessary Training, Says Patil

DHULIA, May 25 (UPI): "A free India would immediately require for its efficient administration lakhs of able and energetic administrators—men and women richly endowed with qualities of honesty, character and resourcefulness. Where is a nation to find so many capable administrators all of a sudden unless we know where to get them from? Surely nobody in this country has any illusion that free India's administrators are going to be imported from foreign countries", said Mr. S. K. Patil, General Secretary of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, presiding over the first session of the Bombay Provincial Ministerial Officials' Conference.

Continuing he said: "Our Swaraj will be meaningless if we are found wanting in the essential art of administration of our own country. The problems of a struggle for independence are very much different from the problems of the administration of a free country. It is high time young men and young women of India understood that difference and prepared themselves for running their country's administration.

DUTY OF CLERKS

"It is in this connection that the whole of the clerical staff spread over the length and breadth of this country, has a great obligation to discharge towards this country. They must train themselves immediately to undertake the responsibilities which, by right, belong to them. The administrators of a great nation like India must be men and women of imagination and integrity of character. You must imbibe in you qualities of loyalty, discipline, devotion and service without which an able administration is impossible."

Earlier, Mr. Patil spoke about the miserable lot of the inferior clerical staff which was aggravated during the war. "Of all the classes," he said, 'the class known as the inferior clerical staff or the so-called lower-middle class, which must be counted by millions in this country is the poorest and the most neglected. This unfortunate class has nobody to support even its most natural and legitimate demands. The Government does not so much look at it. The local self-government invariaby harasses it by over-work and the commercial concerns systematically exploit it. That is the miserable plight of this class which forms the backbone of every Government and every business establishment."

Indian In North London Remanded In Custody

LONDON, May 23. (Reuter): When Mr. Dharanpal Nayyar, 25, an Indian described as a wholesaler of Edmonton, North London, was charged at the Old Street London police-court to-day, with receiving 780 pairs of gents' pants and 822 vests, the property of some persons at present unknown, a Detective Inspector said that £900 in one-sterling notes were found in an attache case in Mr. Nayyar's shop. "I have taken possession of it and propoes keeping it pending inquiries", added the Inspector.

Mr. Nayyar was remanded in custody until Tuesday.

ON WITH THE SHOW!

AT RANDOM

As hardly any news reaches me this week, I shall turn columnist—after the modern fashion beloved of journalists seeking to bring forth their light from under the proverbial bushel.

ASHOK AND MEDHAVEEN

If that female news hound, Lynette Solomon of the "Sentinel", is to be believed, the Hindi opera ASHOK AND MEDHAVEEN, which is being staged at the NOVELTY on Sunday mornings, is a delight both to eye and ear. Considering the source of this information, one may well conclude that the male dancers have attractive personalities, for, it would seem from Lynette's out-pourings, that she has a great weakness for the sterner sex.

TIP TO PRODUCERS

We have had many skits on ultra-feminism recently, what with Vanmala playing a college girl and Sneprabha frolicing about as a doctor. Why does not some producer, with initiative, select a woman-journalist as his target?

I am sure Lynette would not mind being the subject of such parodying. She might even be glad to write the script herself! What's more, if Lynette can sing like a linnet, she would do well to play in a semi-operatic version of her own screen-play.

INDIVIDUALITY

The trouble with our heroines is that they are far too sterio-typed. But Lynette would certainly be different with her filmy, foamy, multi-coloured draperies, her romantic ardour (let us hope this is not merely pen-deep) and, before I forget, her lovely black dog, which, like Mary's lamb, follows her all round Churchgate when she is nosing around for news.

Though I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting her, I daresay that as a character she would be highly interesting. Why, she even has the guts to refer, in her column, to her Editor, by his surname minus a title of courtesy such as Mr. Truly has socialism invaded journalism!

Here indeed is a modern Miss no film producer should miss.

Post Script: If you get a part in films, Miss Solomon, please do not forget to remit me my commission for this boost.—Sardi.

Views

Lamington: 2nd Week

PRADEEP HISTORICAL

The "Ek Raat" pair—Neena the 'mysterious' miss and the famed Prithviraj, once more return as lovers from the pages of history, in PRITHVIRAJ SANYUKTA which has been produced by W. Z. Ahmed.

Four dance sequences and the music of S. K. Pal highlight this production which was directed by Najam Naqvi.

★

Krishna: 5th Week

CHILDHOOD RECALLED

Basant Pictures' BACHPAN, revives memories of childhood as it unfolds the story of an embittered old man who regains his faith in humanity through a child's goodness and love.

Babies Madhuri and Shakuntala play the child parts in this film, while Mazhar Khan and Chandraprabha enact the grown-up roles.

★

Royal Opera House: 10th Week

PRATAP SINGH GLORIFIED

Ranjit's RAJPUTANI glorifies Rana Pratap Singh of Mewar and his valiant fight to free his conquered state.

The title role is enacted by Veena opposite Jairaj who plays Shakta Singh, her lover from the opposing camp. Bipin Gupta is Rana Pratap Singh.

Bulo C. Rani's music and the melodies of Pundit Indra are to be found in this film made under the baton of Aspi.

ANTI-CORRUPTION UNITS SET UP IN BOMBAY

Public Co-operation Invited

BOMBAY, Saturday.

With a view to stamping out corruption and bribery in this province, the Government of Bombay has set up anti-corruption units each in charge of a Deputy Superintendent of Police in Gujarat, the Deccan and the Karnatak—one unit being located at Ahmedabad, one in Poona and the third in Belgaum. These units will be under the direct control of a Superintendent of Police, who has been designated as Additional Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police, Anti-Corruption Branch, and whose headquarters will be in Bombay when the Government is in Bombay and in Poona when the Government moves to Poona. The Superintendent of Police will work under the direct guidanceof Mr. Morarji Desai, Minister for Home and Revenue, and under the general supervision of the Inspector-General of Police.

Similarly, an anti-corruption organisation has also been set up in Bombay City under a Deputy Commissioner of Police who will work under the general supervision of the Commissioner of Police

The Government desires to make it clear that, while genuine complaints will be investigated by the new branches thoroughly and with scrupulous fairness and guilty parties punished, protection will be afforded only to genuine complainants, and utterly false and frivolous complaints will be dealt with according to law.

Anonymous petitions which so often have their origin in base motives, will not be entertained. The Government hopes that the public will wholeheartedly co-operate with these new organisations in eradicating the vice of corruption in public services.

NEW CEILINGS FOR PAPER & BOARDS

The Government of India has, by a notification published in the 'Gazette of India' of April 16, 1946, issued a revised schedule of ceiling prices of different varieties of paper and boards. The new prices are lower by 5 1/2 pies per lb. than the existing civil ceiling prices in the case of white printing paper. Proportionate reductions have been made in the prices of other varieties of papers and boards other than millboards and strawboards.

The other amendments made in the notification to the Paper Price Control Order, 1945, have reduced the amount of discount payable by paper mills to their distributors from 10 per cent to 7 1/2 per cent of the Civil ceiling prices. Similarly, the commission which a distributor can charge for the sale of paper to persons other than dealers in paper has been reduced from 10 per cent to 7 1/2 per cent over and above the controlled mill price. The dealers' margins of profit on wholesale and retail transactions have likewise been reduced from 10 per cent to 7 1/2 per cent and from 25 per cent to 20 per cent respectively, above the Civil ceiling prices.

The revised prices as well as the reductions in the rates of discount and in the margin of profit of all mill distributors and of dealers in wholesale and retail transactions will take effect from June 1, 1946. All paper whether manufactured before or after June 1, 1946, and whether or not labelled with old prices, will have to be sold at the revised prices from that date.

M. P. PATIL TO TOUR KHOPOLI

Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Forests and Agriculture, will tour the Khopoli and Kolad areas of Kolaba District on May 26 and 27 respectively. The Minister will visit Apta, Chawna Dam and inspect the site for Varsan Dam on May 25. On the following day he will inspect the diversion project at Bhira and water turbines at Muthavli. Mr. Patil will return to Bombay on the same evening.

MORARJI FOR SURAT: Sjt. Morarji Desai, Home and Revenue Minister, is expected to visit Surat on June 1.

JAI PRAKASH ON C. S. P.'S TASK AHEAD

Socialists To Be Perennial Reminders To Congress Of Full Independence

(From Our Correspondent.)

NEW DELHI, May 25.

The Congress Socialist leader, Mr. Jai Prakash Narain who is here in response to Maulana Azad's invitation defined his party's attitude to Congress in general and the coming constitutional shake up in particular. He said that his party would work inside Congress and be a part of the Congress organisation preserving its individuality intact. The Congress Socialist Party, therefore, would not oppose Congress if the latter entered the interim Government or a Government evolved by the Constituent Assembly. It would, in that case, direct its energies towards exerting constructive pressure on Congress

He explained that if the British Government, for instance sought compromise over the issue of independence or withdrawal of British troops from India, Congress Socialists would organise support for Congress for full independence and complete withdrawal of British troops.

Congress Socialist, likewise had their own economic plan for India, he added. This included nationalisation of key industries and decentralisation of smaller industries which were to work on a co-operative basis. They similarly favoured the co-operative system of farming for India.

Mr. Jai Prakash Narain is expected to put his party's programme before the country at an early date.

NEW SHIPS FOR P. & O. SERVICE

Like other shipping companies the P. and O. suffered severe losses in ships during the War and many familiar names will be missing when the Company is able to resume its normal services. Among earlier casualties were the 'Rawalpindi', whose gallant fight against overwhelming odds will never be forgotten and the 'Rajputana' and 'Comorin'. Later in the North African invasion the 'Strathallan', 'Viceroy of India', 'Cathay', 'Narkunda' and 'Ettrick' were all sunk by enemy action within the period of a few weeks. The 'Ranpura' acquired by the Admiralty, remains in their service.

The ships which have survived the War are still engaged on national service under Government control, but it is hoped that they will be released gradually during the next twelve months. Their release does not mean immediate transfer to normal service since their conversion from troopships will take anything from six to nine months, possibly longer if the shipyards are unable to cope with the volume of work involved. As soon as possible these vessels will be back on their usual routes and it is the Company's intention to accelerate the transits to and from India, the Far East and Australia, before the advent of new ships.

Orders have already been placed for the construction of two large passenger vessels, one for Australia and one for the Far Eastern service, and four cargo liners for the China trade.

Atom Information Committee Formed

NEW YORK, May 24 (U.P.A.) Warning that the world may drift toward unparalleled catastrophe as result of atomic weapons, Albert Einstein announced to-day that he together with other scientists had organized a committee seeking 200,000 dollars to inform the peoples of the world of the menace of misused atomic power

32-PAGE BOOKLET
'VITALITY SUPREME' by Gambers – a rational, scientific course on Vitality-Building is sent FREE on request.
This must-be-studied course is sure to benefit you. Do drop a postcard for it this very day.
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CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Vaishak Vad 10 2002.
Muslim: Jamadi-ul-Akher 24, 1365.
Parsi: Ader 25, 1315.
Sunrise: 6-2 a.m. Sunset 7-10 p.m.
Hightide: 07-45, 19-57.
Lowtide: 01-56, 13-40.

Today's Engagements

GITA LECTURE: At Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road, at 6-30 p.m. today.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: Public Lecture on "Karma" at 6-15 p.m., to-day.

BOMBAY SPIRITUAL CENTRE: Discourse in Marathi by Yogiraj Sadguru Sham on 'Do you want Happiness,' at 4-30 p.m. today.

DAIRAT-UL-ADAB: Prof. S. Husain Naqvi, will read a paper on "Akbar Allahabadi" at Rahat Basar Manzil, Mahim, at 5-30 p.m., to-day.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY: Indian Music at Sir P. M. Gardens, Malbar Hill, from 5-45 to 7-45 p.m., to-day, by Mr. D. N. Nadkarni.

BOMBAY KERALEEYA SAHITHIYA SAMITHI: General body meeting at Podar College, Matunga, at 5 p.m. to-day.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY: Music at Victoria Gardens, Byculla, from 6-0 to 8-0 p.m. to-day, by the Aibless Orchestra Jazz Band.

PARTY TO BOMBAY PREMIER: Laxminagar (Khar) Resident's Association will hold a function at the Khar Gymkhana at 5-30 p.m. today to meet the Premier, Mr. B. G. Kher.

MATUNGA & SION CONGRESS SAMATHIES: Monthly flag salutation at 8 a.m., to-day, at Nappoo Gardens. Sri Madan Mohan Upadhay, member, A. I. C. C. from U. P., will unfurl the flag and address.

KARNATAKA VIDYARTHI SAMITHI: Will stage a Kannada drama named "Vyabhichariyaru" in aid of the Samithi at 9-30 a.m. today in the Damodar Thackersey Hall, Parel, Mr. K. F. Patil will preside.

CHOWPATTY MEETING: Under the joint auspices of the Bombay Students' Congress and Uttar Bharatiya Sangh, Sjt. Madanmohan Upadhyaya, U. P. Congress worker, will address a meeting at Chaupatty at 7 p.m. today.

THE SECRETARY OF THE B.S.C.: Earnestly request students Bombay to present themselves in large numbers at V. T. Station at 11-30 a.m. today to welcome Nana Patil the underground hero of Satara.

POSTAL NOTICE: No-delivery Town Sub-Post Offices at Chaupati, Falkland Road, Mumbadevi and Null Bazar, which were temporarily closed as a result of recent disturbances will resume their working at their original premises with effect from Monday (May 27). The booking of parcels will, however, remain suspended at these offices until further notice.

RECEPTION TO SJT. NANA PATIL: Sjt. Nana Patil, the leader of the Resistance Movement in Satara is arriving in the city by the Poona Mail at 11-30 a.m. (S.T.) today (Sunday). A reception on behalf of the citizens of Bombay will be given to them at the Bori Bunder Station.

TODAY'S PROCESSION: A procession of the workers of Bombay will go to the Shivaji Park from the Azad Maidan at 3 p.m. (S.T.)

MEETING AT SHIVAJI PARK: A meeting will be held under the auspices of the Satara Jilha Rashtriya Sangh on the Shivaji Park at 7 p.m. (S.T.) today (Sunday) Sjt. Nana Patil, Kisan Veer Pandu Master, Barde Master and their colleagues from the Resistance Movement will be accorded a reception at the meeting when Bhai Achyutrao Patwardhan will preside.

'B' WARD CONGRESS DELEGATES

The General Secretaries of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee have issued the following announcement:

All other candidates having withdrawn their candidature, Shri Purshottam Shivdas Thakkar and Shri Liladhar Lakhamsi Shah are hereby declared duly elected as Congress Delegates from B (Mandvi) Ward of the City of Bombay. There will be no election, therefore, in this constituency on next Sunday as announced.

TO-DAY ON RADIO

SUNDAY, May 26.

BOMBAY—1.

244 m. (1,231 kc/s)—7-30 a.m. Punnuswami 7-40 News (M) 7-50 News (G) 8-0 News (E) 8-15 News (H) 8-30 Shreedhar Parsekar (Violin) 8-45 Vishnukumar Vyas 9-0 Rambhan Gulawani 9-35 Roshanara Begam 11-0 Film Music 11-45 Kavi Parampare (4).

12-15 p.m. Amanat Ali Khan 12-45 News (M) 12-50 News (G) 12-55 News (H) 1-0 Nalini Rao 1-15 Mohammad Rafi 1-30 News (E) 1-40 Music 4-20 Rambhav Gulawani 4-50 S. Parsekar (Violin) 5-15 Gammat Jammat 5-45 Tabla Tarang 5-55 Locals 6-0 News (E) 6-10 News (H) 6-15 Thumri 6-30 Nalini Rao 6-50 G. S. Yellapurkar 7-0 "Avo Bahes Karen" (H) 7-30 Amanant Ali Khan 8-0 News (M) 8-15 News (G) 8-30 Books on My Shief 8-15 English Theatre 9-0 News (H) 9-15 News (E) 9-30 B. B. C. News 9-40 Folk-Songs of India 10-10 B. B. C. Orchestra.

MUKUND STRIKE CONTINUES

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mr. N. Natrajan, Secretary, Mukund Strike Fund Committee, writes: More than one thousand workers of the Mukand Iron and Steel Works Ltd., Sewri, of which Mr. Kamalnayan Bajaj (son of late Jamnalal Bajaj) is the Managing Director, are still continuing their 32 day-old strike.

On May 23, while compromise talks were proceeding with the workers' representatives and Mr. Abid Ali Jafferbhoy, the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Company, the Management with the assistance of the Police succeeded in bringing in about 25 blacklegs in taxies headed by one Balwant Singh, a notorious strike-breaker. That day even peaceful pickets were beaten by the police and removed and even access to the public road running in front of the works was refused to the Mukand workers by the police.

Despite this provocation from police authorities and the Management the workers have remained peaceful and are continuing the strike.

The workers' representative saw Mr. Joshi, Commissioner of Labour, yesterday, when the latter assured him that normal peaceful picketing would be allowed.

Works Manager's Statement

The Manager of the Mukund Iron and Steel Works Ltd., writes: "The strike continues in the Mukund Iron and Steel Works since 24th April. The management had offered even before the strike to get the demands of the workers arbitrated upon by the Labour Commissioner or by any other person enjoying the confidence of the parties concerned. This offer of the management was rejected by the workers. During the discussions, the same offer was again repeated and it was also suggested that the matter may be arbitrated upon by anyone whom the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee may nominate and several of the names of impartial public men were suggested who could be requested to arbitrate in the matter. Unfortunately these offers were also rejected by the workers. Their leaders on the other hand proposed that the matter may be arbitrated upon by any one out of Messrs. Jai Prakash Narain, Achyut Patwardhan, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and Mr. Ashok Mehta.

The management accepted the proposal but later the workers' leaders informed the management that the first three gentlemen were not in Bombay and could not come in the near future and the fourth gentleman was not keeping sound health and consequently the arbitration would not be held. The management again offered to get the matter arbitrated upon by the Minister for Labour to the Bombay Government or by any leading gentleman whom the Labour Ministry of the province may appoint for the purpose. The Labour Minister saw the leaders of the workers as also representatives of the mill but the workers refused to go by the advice of the Labour Ministry.

The Management again requested the workers to resume work and explained to them the whole position by Hindustani, Marathi hand-bills but of no avail. Then the Management concluded that the workers of their own accord did not like to continue the work on the same conditions of service and treated the workers as dismissed. The attitude of the workers has been far from that of peaceful nature.

NEW ENGLISH DAILY FOR BOMBAY

BOMBAY, May 25 (UPI): Declaration has been filed by Mr. Chimanlal Vadilal Shah, Printer and Publisher, on behalf of the 'Matribhumi' group of journals from 21, Dalal Street, Bombay, for the publication, with effect from July 1, 1946, of an English daily named "Advocate of India", and for a Marathi daily named "Chitra", with effect from the same date.

ALL QUIET AT WADALA

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Scheduled Caste (Mahars) Hindu clashes, that started on Thursday have come to an end. During last night and this morning, there were no incidents.

The Morebaug and other mills that were closed yesterday due to these disturbances are working with full complement.

Last night "Shanti Dals" were formed by both the Congress and Scheduled Caste Federation co-operating. Lorries fitted with loud speakers tourd the disturbed areas.

PATTABHI AND RAO IN CITY

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya and Mr. Shankar Rao Deo, Members, Congress Working Committee, arrived here this evening from Delhi, by air.

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★
MY COUNTRY—MY COUNTRY
Short Story by PROF. N. S. PHADKE
★
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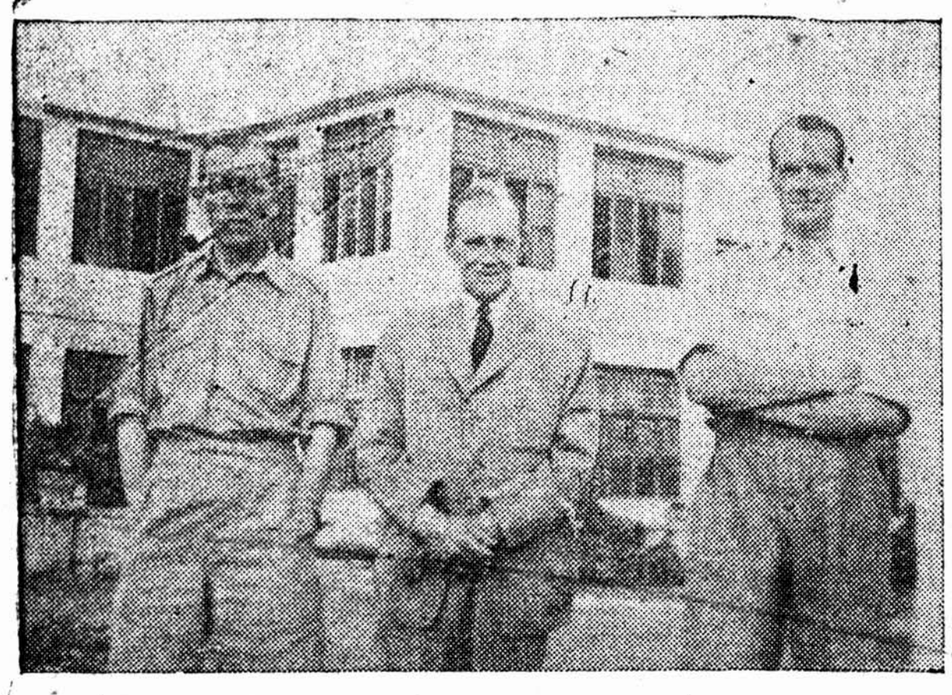

Captain Bertram Brooke, brother and Heir apparent to the present Rajah of Sarawak (centre) and party snapped at Karachi on 22nd May. He is visiting U.K. in connection with the proposed cession of Sarawak.

RUSSIA MORE IMPERIALIST THAN UNDER CZARS

Australian Minister's Fear

SYDNEY, May 24 (Reuter): Mr. Joseph J. Maloney, former Australian Minister to the Soviet Union, said in a speech today that Russia was an aggressor nation who would take advantage of the present turmoil to further her own imperialistic expansion.

"Russia today is more imperialist than under the Czars", he said. "We can rest assured that Russia will not help the rehabilitation of any country.

"The longer a country continues to be a trouble, the better Russia will like it.

"When a crisis comes in Australia there will be not only a fifth column but a fifth army to contend with."

Marcel Petiot To Be Guillotined

PARIS, May 24. (Reuter): Marcel Petiot, the Paris doctor convicted of murdering 24 men, women and children, will be guillotined at dawn to-morrow.

SKIRMISHES BETWEEN BRITISH FORCES AND INDONESIANS

BATAVIA, May 24 (Reuter): A number of skirmishes between British Indian forces and Indonesians were reported in an official communique today.

In the northern part of Batavia a patrol of Mahrattas was fired on by about eight Indonesian riflemen who subsequently withdrew.

An Indian patrol base was heavily attacked with Macninegun fire and grenades but the attack was repulsed without any casualties among British Indian defenders.

An attack on a Gurkha patrol was also repulsed without casualties.

ROYAL FAMILY FOR EPSOM

LONDON, May 24 (Reuter): Princess Elizabeth will go with the King and the Oaks. This will be her first visit to the Derby at Epsom, but last year she went with her father to see the substitute race at New duled to be held at Nainital from June 6 onwards has been postponed Market.

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Mobile Striking Forces Ready For Action

Delhi Corroborates Brockway's Revelations

MILITARY IS MAKING PREPARATIONS TO SUPPRESS "LAWLESSNESS"

NEW DELHI, May 24, (A.P.I.): Statements have appeared in sections of the press that general headquarters have evolved elaborate plans to suppress anti-Government demonstrations which may lead to open insurrection. These statements are founded on gross mis-apprehension, says a press communique.

It is the duty of military forces in any civilised state to be prepared to give effective assistance to the civil authorities in the event of a serious menace to the tranquillity of the country endangering the lives and property of law-abiding citizens.

The maintenance of plans for action with this object is a normal duty of every military staff: they are naturally devised occasionally to meet the changing conditions and their existence in revised form is an indication that the military forces are alive to their responsibility.

It is evident that, on the conclusion of a great war, there is a special necessity to revise such plans with a view to taking advantage of the experience gained in the conduct of campaigns, and in accordance with up to date views upon the tactical handling of troops resulting from improvements in their armament and equipment.

An army would be failing in one of its elementary obligations were it not prepared at all times to stand behind the constituted authority in preserving internal peace.

Plans now in existence have as their sole purpose the suppression of lawlessness. They are not and never will be directed against the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of India.

It can be mentioned here that Mr. Fenner Brockway is not the only man to refer to these alleged preparation. In a section of the press, particularly in Bombay and Bengal, startling allegations have been made.

Last week a local contemporary published the following:

OPERATION ASYLUM

The full details of "Operation Asylum" are tabulated in an extremely confidential circular handed out only to trusted senior military officers. This is how the introduction to this document runs:

"The general internal defence situation throughout India as appreciated by G.H.Q. is one in which there is the possibility of industrial trouble, intercommunal trouble and Anti-Government disturbances which may lead to open insurrection (my emphasis—R.C.). These may occur singly or in combination.

"Anti-Government disturbances are liable to take place as under:

(i) March to May 1946, i.e., soon after elections are completed in all Provinces.

(ii) July to August 1946, i.e., after Congress have been in power for a few months and have co-ordinated their plans.

"To meet with the situation envisaged above, a plan is being made, known as 'Operation Asylum'. The plan is based on the formation of firm basis from which mobile striking forces can operate to keep open vital communications.

EASTERN COMMAND'S BATTLE MEASURES.

As early as December 1st, the Eastern Command circularised all its regiments:

"The present period is likely to see a great amount of civil disorder in India. It is envisaged that normal methods of communications will be interrupted or totally destroyed."

The following measures were taken:

(1) Military wireless sets were installed in principal police stations, and technical personnel lent to instruct in their use.

(2) All military wireless systems were duplicated, and the duplicate transmitters were buried in readiness in case land lines connecting normal transmitter circuits were cut.

(3) Mobile columns were organised to work in conjunction with normal military formations and civil police, were ready to move to any threatened point.

(4) All officers and senior NCO's were for the first time issued with detailed individual instructions, telling them when and where to fire on crowds.

"We Are Not Returning Empty Handed", Says Devdas

NEW YORK, May 24 (Reuter): Mr. Devadas Gandhi and Mr. Ramanath Goenka returned to new York today from Montreal following their Canadian tour, and told Reuter: "We found plenty of friendliness and warmth from the people and the Government of Canada and from newsprint manufacturers on whom we called.

"There is considerable sympathy there for the cause of freedom of India.

"On the question of the mission which took us there—to obtain newsprint—we are not returning empty-handed but since negotiations are still in progress we are not prepared to say anything further at this stage."

Goenka's Mild Optimism About Newsprint Supply

NEW YORK, May 24 (U.P.A.): Mr. Devadas Gandhi and Mr. Ramanath Goenka arirved here to-day by plane from Montreal.

Asked whether they had succeeded in obtaining newsprint, Goenka replied, "To some extent."

Both publishers immediately plunged into a series of conferences and engagements which is expected to keep them busy for about a week in New York.

BANGALORE May 23. (A.P.I.): Mr. Abdul Aziz Siddiqui, President Bangalore District Muslim League, died of heart attack last night. He was prominent in social life of the civil and military station, Bangalore.

SITUATION STILL TENSE IN KASHMIR

Editors Prepare Report For Jawaharlal

SRINAGAR, May 24 (U.P.I.): Curfew has been imposed in Anantnag following yesterday's firing in the town. The situation here is now reported to be calm. Several persons injured in yesterday's firing were admitted in the Anantnag Hospital.

In Srinagar too the situation continues to be tense and police have taken precautionary measures to meet any contingency.

Leading newspaper editors in Kashmir are publishing a joint statement placing before Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, President of the All-India States' People's Conference, "true facts" about the Kashmir situation.

SRINAGAR SITUATION WELL IN HAND

SRINAGAR, May 24 (A.P.I.): The situation in Srinagar and districts of Kashmir is well in hand and is rapidly returning to normal, says a press note issued by the Kashmir Government.

MOVE TO IMPOSE COLLECTIVE FINES IN SRINAGAR

It is understood that the Kashmir Government is seriously considering the question of imposing collective fines or punitive taxes on those localities in Srinagar where bridges and roads were damaged and where telephone and electric wires were cut.

Some decision in this respect is expected soon.

Truman Slashes Rly. Strike Leaders

THIS 'PEARL HARBOUR' DONE BY OUR OWN PEOPLE

WASHINGTON, May 24. (Reuter): President Truman, broadcasting to-night, said he came before the American people at a time of great crisis.

He said: "The crisis of Pearl Harbour was the result of action by the enemy.

"The crisis of to-day has been caused by a group of men who have placed their private interests above the welfare of the nation."

President Truman's broadcast was in connection with the great rail strike which is paralysing communications in the United States. The President said: "If operations of our railroads is not resumed at once, thousands of persons both here and abroad will starve."

The strike was a contest between small group of men and the Government, the President said

Declaring that railroads must operate, the President appealed to the strikers to return. Unless they did so by 9 p.m. G.M.T. on Saturday, (2-30 a.m. I.S.T.—Sunday) he would call upon the armed forces to help run the railroads and furnish protection for those who wanted to work.

After dealing with the background to the dispute involving the Engine-Drivers Union under Mr. Alvanley Johnston and trainmen under Mr. A. F. Whitney, President Truman said: "It is inconceivable that in our democracy any two men should be placed in a position where they can completely stifle our economy and ultimately destroy our country. The Government is challenged as seldom before in our history. It must meet the challenge or confess its impotence".

Declaring that Mr. Whitney and Mr. Johnston had rejected his proposal for a compromise when other unions had accepted the president said: "I assume these two men know the terrible havoc their decision has caused and the even more extreme suffering that will result in the future."

After detailing the effects of the strike in the United States the President added: "While the situation in our country is extremely acute the condition in Europe is tragic. Most of our friends to-day in liberated Europe are receiving less than one-third of the average American consumption of food

"We have promised to help the starving masses of Asia and Europe and we have been helping them. We have been exerting our utmost efforts and it is necessary for us to increase our shipments. At this minute 100,000 tons of grain are being held up by the strike of these two unions.

The U.N.R.R.A. has 12 ships scheduled to leave our ports with grain. These ships cannot sail because the strike of these two unions is keeping food from reaching our ports. If these ships are held up any longer it means the bread supply of 45,000,000 people will be cut off within one week."

Stating that he had told Mr. Johnston and Mr. Whitney of the tragedy which would result from the strike, the President added "they have refused to heed my warning. I doubt whether the rank and file of their unions have been told of these facts. I am telling them now so that each one of them can face his conscience and consider the spectre of starvation and death that will result from the course which Mr. Whitney and Mr. Johnston are following."

The President has requested the Congress to be in Session at 9 p. m. (G.M.T.) today to hear a further message from him on the strike.

THREATENED DISASTER.

Officials of U.N.R.R.A. and the United States Department of Agriculture declared here to-night that the rail strike "appears to have chilled" any chance of the United States meeting her already lagging foreign food shipment commitments in the next few weeks.

If prolonged, they said, the strike would threaten disaster this summer in the famine menaced areas of Europe and Asia.

A spokesman at U.N.R.R.A.'s headquarters said "the great majority of our relief shipments from both east and west coast ports have now been frozen".

A further threat to the programme is a strike of dockers due to begin early next month though U.N.R.R.A. officials are negotiating with the union to allow U.N.R.R.A ships to keep moving

ARMY AND NAVY STAND BY

WASHINGTON, May 25. (A.P.A.): American troops are being moved to strategic locations in anticipation of a request for protection of the railways, a War Department Spokesman said last night.

The Spokesman described the troop movements as "precautionary." No requests have so far been received from the railway companies and no violence has been reported.

Secretary of War Robert Patterson, leaving a White House conference, told newsmen that the army and navy may call back into uniform the men who ran the railways during the war.

At the same time, General Eisenhower, the Army Chief of Staff, cancelled his vacation at sea island (Georgia), and flew to Washington to participate in strike conferences.

Army, Navy and Marine corps were on a Standby basis, but no military request has so far been made.

TRUMAN TO MAKE IMPORTANT STATEMENT

WASHINGTON, May 25 (Reuter): It is reported that President Truman will make specific recommendations when he addresses both the houses of Congress tonight at the moment of expiry of his ultimatum to 250,000 striking railwaymen.

He has urgently recalled General Eisenhower, the United States Army Chief of Staff from his holiday in Georgia.

ARABS ALONE HAVE RIGHT TO DETERMINE THEIR FUTURE

JERUSALEM, May 24. (Reuter): The Arab Higher Committee, in a declaration sent to Britain and the United States to-night, stated that the principal Arab "national" demands required withdrawal of all foreign troops in Palestine. The two other chief demands were: Abrogation from mandate and immediate cessation of Jewish immigration and land sales to Jews and also establishment of an Arab independent democratic state in Palestine, which would be a member of the Arab National League.

The declaration stated that Arabs in Palestine refused to accept the recommendations of the Anglo-American Commission in their entirety and would defend their country with all the means at their disposal.

"Arabs further insist", the declaration continued, "that they alone have the right to determine their own future and refuse the interference of any foreign power. Consequently, Arabs consider that Britain and the United States have no right to determine the state of Arabs in their own homeland."

THEY "FRAT" TO LEARN GERMAN

BERLIN (Reuter): About 76 per cent of American soldiers in Germany admit to having fraternised with the German population.

According to an inquiry recently carried through at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, headquarters of the American forces in Germany, the American soldiers gave very varied reasons for "fratting."

Many said they "fratted" because there were not enough American girls available. Others said they did it in order to learn German. Some said they wanted to teach the Germans something about democracy or about America.

Many of the soldiers who do not admit to having "fratted" declared that the Germans are not to be trusted.

Asheton To Quit Tory Party Chairmanship

LONDON, May 24. (Reuter): Mr. Ralph Asheton, Conservative member of Parliament for the city of London, is resigning the chairmanship of the Conservative Party organisation.

The Conservative Party Central Office is making no statement at present, but early in April it was stated that Mr. Asheton hoped to be released from the chairmanship in order to concentrate on opposition in the House of Commons.

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Wanted: Apprentices to undergo training at our Head Office and Mills for 3 years during which period they will draw monthly salaries of Rs. 150|-; 200|-; 250|- for the first, second and third years. On confirmation they will start in the grade of Rs. 400|-30-700|-, e.b., 850|-50-1,200|-. Proportionate D. A. and House Allowance also admissible On Joining candidates will have to execute a 10 years' Service Agreement and to immediately deposit security worth Rs. 1,000|- followed by 5 equal instalments of Rs. 500|- each, the security in all totalling Rs. 3,500|-. Interview at Calcutta at applicant's own expense. Qualifications: Applicants must be youngmen with uniformly brilliant academic career, atleast a high first class Master's degree in mathematics or Commerce with a top first class Bachelor's degree. They must possess impressive personality, influential family connections, initiative, health and stamina for hard work. Before applying candidates must make sure that they possess the requisite qualifications. Apply stating age, academic qualifications and references to Box No. 8190A C|o "Bombay Chronicle."

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MINERVA

COTTON MARKET

BOMBAY, May 25.

The reactionary improvement which started yesterday following the rapid decline in the beginning of the week continued to-day. However signs of any bold recovery are not yet in sight, and the undertone is definitely nervous.

I. C. C. July opened around Rs. 440 and after advancing up to Rs. 445 reacted to Rs. 443/8.

May and September deliveries were quoted at Rs. 435/8 and Rs. 454 respectively.

To-day being the last day for May delivery orders for 14,500 bales were received. Inquiry in the ready market was quite satisfactory.

The following were the closing quotations :—

	Rs. as.
I.C.C. July	443 12
I.C.C. September	455 4

BULLION EXCHANGE

BOMBAY, May 25.

Substantial improvement was witnessed in the ready section of the local Bullion Market to-day.

Ready mint Gold was quoted up to Rs 110/8 and ready Silver up to Rs. 195.

The forward section is still closed. Pending the settlement of the outstanding transactions at the fixed rates in the Vaishakh delivery forward trading is apt to remain suspended.

The following were the closing quotations at 5-30 p.m.

Ready Gold	109
Ready Silver	192
Sovereign	69

Indian Stock Exchange

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BOMBAY, May 25.

Tata Ordinary 555 Tata Deferred 3125 Indian Iron 56/2 Steel Corpn. of Bengal 52/4 Bombay Dyeing 2622/8 Central India 502/8 Century 1055 Gokak 395 Kohinoor 965 Simplex 450 Andhra Valley 1880 Tata Hydro 219/6 Tata Power 1980 Associated Cement 260 Belapur 325 Bombay Burma (Old) 665

NEW YORK COTTON.
New York, May 24.

July ...	27.78
October ..	28.05
December ..	28.24
January nominal ...	28.21
March ...	28.39
May nominal	28.42
July bid ..	28.33
Middling Spot ..	28.38
NEW ORLEANS COTTON	
July ..	27.84
October ...	28.09
December ..	28 25
March ...	28.42
May ...	28.46
Middling Spot ..	27.60
NEW YORK COTTON, NOON CALL.	
July ..	27.64
October ...	27.92
December ..	28.06

LONDON WHEAT.
London, May 24.

Wheat Rozario Santa Fe (new crop) unquoted, Australian Wheat (bulk) 64/6 quoted, Australian Wheat (bags) unquoted.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.
London, May 24.

	£
Rupee Paper 3-1/2 p c	75-1/2
Consols 2-1/2 p c	96-3/4
Conversion Loan 3-1/2 p c 1961	111-1/8
War Loan 3-1/2 p c 1952 and after	105-11/16
Funding Loan 4 p c 1960/90	116-7/8
Victory Bonds 4 p c	117-7/8
Chartered Bank of I. A. and China	11-5/16
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank (London Regd.)	91
National Bank of India	36-1/4

Dr. A. P. R. Pinto, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., is expected shortly from London to resume his clinics in Merwan Building, Sir Phirozeshah Mehta Road. (2618)

WALL STREET MARKET

NEW YORK May 24.

Wall Street opened easy and moderately active. The market acted surprisingly well during the morning in face of the railway strike with losses on a broad front paced by leading rails, steels and motors, ranging up to around two points in relatively quiet trading. Wall Street were inclined to caution pending new appraisal on the nationwide repercussions caused by the rail and coal controversies with the various sections confident that these dispute will be ironed out before industry is too seriously disrupted. Stressing the inherently strong technical market situation and the longterm position of most investors, brokers believe that any temporary sell off may find ready buyers in many issues. Timid liquidation was soon succeeded by firmer bids, particularly for rails during the afternoon and the initial broad front losses generally were reduced or converted into gains of as much as the two points they had lost during the morning. Dealings however were relatively modest throughout as numerous customers stood aside to await labour developments. The feeling that a crisis has been reached in the coal and transportation inspired reinstatement of commitments in many cases with asserted specialities aided by pleasing dividend news. Rails also reflected the belief that a quick freight rate boost will be granted to cover the rising wages and other costs, and this brought nearly all carriers into higher ground with some even reaching new higs for 1946. The market closed steady.

American Telephone 195-3/4 (196-1/8) Amerex Corp 41-1/2 (41-1/2), Anaconda Copper 47-1/2 (47-3/4), Chase Bank 43 (44-1/4) Sinclair Oil 19-5/8 (191/4). Firestone Tyre 75 (75)(General Electric 46-5/8 (47) General Motors 72-1/2 (72-1/4). Ingersol Rand 142 (141) International Nickel 40-1/4 (40). National City Bank 47-1/4 (48) New York Central Rail 26-5/8, (26-1/4), Socony Vacuum Corp 16-7/8 (17), Texas Corp 64-1/4 (62-1/2) Union Carbon 119-3/4 (119-1/2), U. S. Smelting 71-3/4 (71) U. S Steel 86-7/8 (86-1/2), Western Union 37-3/4 (37-7/8).

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET.
NEW YORK May 24.

Cotton opened barely steady, and early declined owing to nervous liquidation and indifferent demand, which solely reflected the strike situation with its serious nation wide repercussions Prices lateir rallied until the interim losses were recovered with support based on the theory that effects of the strike were too serious to last long. Anxiety over crop prospects and expected modified price control helped the rally. Otherwise there was no fresh news of market importance. At midday prices were firm. The market displayed firmness throughout the afternoon with the noon rally extended owing to lack of offerings. Continued covering and replacement buying reflected the improvement in sentiment resulting from lack of followup selling on strike news. Otherwise there was still little to account for the market's good showing in face of labour difficulties. The session closed firm.

CHICAGO GRAINS MARKET.
CHICAGO, May 24.

Chicago grains drifted narriowly in slow dealings as the majority of traders focussed attention on Washington in connection with office of price administration legislation and the railroad strike. Oats in which activity was mainly confined declined early on continued favourable weather but later encountered commission house buying, chiefly covering by recent short sellers.

July Old 1.83-1/2 bid (1.83-1/2 bid).
September Old 1.83-1/2 bid (1.83-1/2 bid)
December Old 1.83-1/2 bid (1.83-1/2 bid).
August New 1.98-1/2 bid (1.98-1/2 bid).
November New 7.98-1/2 bid (1.98-1/2
March New 1 98-1/2 bid (1.98-1/2 bid).

LONDON EXCHANGES.
London, May 24.

T. T. London on:—
New York sellers 4.02-1/2, buyers 4.03-1/2 Madrid official 44.00 Montreal sellers 4.43, buyers 4.45 Zurich sellers 17 34 buyers 17.36 Stockholm sellers 16.88 to 16.92.

LONDON BULLION.
London, May 24.

Spot 44 d of Forward 44 d

ALL-INDIA WEATHER

POONA, May 25 (A.P.I.)

Following is the weather chart recorded at 8 hours I S T on May 25.

Ahmedabad 104 31 0 0 minus 0.4 Baroda 101 80 0 0.1—Belgaum 90 70 04.9 plus 1.5 BOMBAY 93 81 0 0.2 minus 0.1 Darjeeling 67 52 0.2 13.7 minus 2 9 Delhi 91 67 0 0.5 plus 0.3 Honavar 94 77 T 1.5— Hyderabad (Dn) 99 79 0 0.7 minus 1.2 Hyderabad (Sd) 117 81 0 0 minus 0.2 Karachi 90 83 0 0 minus 0.2 Madras 94 83 0 1.5 plus 4.1 Mahableshwar 81 74 0 3.5 plus 1.6 Nagpur 107 83 0 1.5 minus 0.5 Patna 105 80 05.7 plus 4.5 Poona 98 72 0 0.8 minus 0.3 Rajkot 104 78 0 0 minus 0.5 Sholapur 94 75 0 2.3 plus 1.3 Surat 93 82 0 0 minus 0.2

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'Hazards Of Independence'

Britain Will Stick To Cabinet Mission's Deal

LONDON, May 24 (Reuter): The very considerable statesmanship which the British Cabinet Mission has so far shown will obviously dictate a policy of giving nothing away from its proposed constitution for India merely because of glamour and agitation, says the political and economic weekly "Economist" in the current issue.

THE STRONGEST CARD

"Its strongest card" adds the 'Economist' "is the unused, unspoken threat of backing the most reasonable and co-operative of the two parties with the support of military protection.

Congress could not hope to hold its own, if it were not protected from a Moslem rebellion by British arms. Equally, the Moslem League could not hope if it refuses the offer to work a receded Pakistan if the weight of British power were thrown against it.

It depends on how willing both sides are to avoid disagreement and violence and to achieve independence peacefully, whether this sane power of coercion has to be used or not.

MORAL OBLIGATIONS!

It is not, of course, a final power of coercion since the real desire of the British Government to transfer its authority in India puts a limit on its willingness to act as umpire and policeman in a protracted civil war

From this distance, therefore, it is possible only to hope that Indian leaders on both sides will see the force of unspoken arguments for mutual concession and will recognise the present fluid situation for what it is, an auction of reasonableness.

CROCODILE TEARS

If they do so, the future of India will still be difficult and dangerous. Such limited powers as the Union will possess do not make for a peaceable nor a rapidly developing country. The politicians who will be working out the economic and social development of India have been trained in political organisation, in party strife and harangue, and not for the most part in the constructive field of policy-making and administrative organisation for practical ends. They will have much to learn and only a narrow margin of safety in which to learn it. But whatever the hazards of independence, the opportunity is a great one and is surely to be preferred to the more lethal hazards of mob violence, of looting the public and war."

LEAGUER APPROVES OF MISSION'S PROPOSALS FOR PAKISTAN

KARACHI, May 24 (A.P.I.): Khan Bahadur Khuhro Revenue Minister of Sind, and a Member of the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League, who arrived in Karachi from New Delhi yesterday in an interview referred to British Cabinet delegation's proposals and approved Sind being grouped with the Punjab.

"This is exactly one of the cardinal principles of "Pakistan" which the Muslim League had been demanding," said K .B. Khuhro, and added "the Punjabis are no doubt far more efficient than Sindhi Mussalmans who form 73 per cent of the population in Sind. Sind was sparsely populated and could easily afford outside migration to the extent of doubling the present population"

RECRUDESCENCE OF TROUBLE IN BAREILLY

BAREILLY, May 25 (API): After a quiet night there were a few cases of brickbat throwing and some instances of assault and stabbing this morning.

The district authorities have banned the parade and physical exercise by the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh volunteers in their 'Akhara' in Mohalla Biharipur until further notice.

A number of persons were arrested this morning.

HUSSEIN ALA'S WARNING TO BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, May 25 (Reuter):—M. Hussein Ala Pasha, the Persian Ambassador to the United States, said yesterday: "I am afraid Britain is not sufficiently awake to the real nature of the danger that confronts us in the Middle-East. After Azerbaijan the trouble will spread to Turkey and Iraq. The situation in the whole area is one of disintegration."

Union Centre Circumscribed

Manufacturers' Plea For Enlarged List

The Working Committee of the All-India Manufacturers' Organization in a resolution on the British Cabinet Mission's proposals express satisfaction that the Mission has come to the conclusion that separatist claims of certain subjects in the country must be rejected since such claims would retard the orderly progress of India. The Committee, however, feels constrained to point out that Union Centre as envisaged in the Mission's proposals is bound to be unduly narrow and restricted due to the exclusion of such essential all-India subjects as Customs, Currency, Coinage and Legal Tender, Tariffs and Planning.

The Committee apprehends that the Mission, in their attempt to pacify and placate the sentiment of a certain section of the population, have in effect conceded more than a generous substance of separatist demands and have thereby made the Union Centre unnecessarily circumscribed and narrow in view of India's safety and security.

The Committee therefore recommends that strong public opinion in the country be created against restricting the Centre only to Foreign Affairs, Defence, and Communications which the Committee presume include Railways, Maritime shipping major ports aircraft and air navigation.

PALME DUTT TO TOUR MALAYA & BURMA

BEZWADA, May 24 (A.P.I.): Mr. Rajani Palme Dutt, the Communist leader, who has been touring the Bezwada area, said here to-day that he would be visiting Burma and Malaya before returning to England. He left here to-night for Madras from where he will proceed to Bombay on May 27.

Referring to the Kashmir situation, Mr. Dutt said: "I see in the Kashmir State People's movement a test case for All-State People's movements in India. Between leaving Bombay and visiting Burma and Malay, I may go to the Punjab where I would like to study Muslim politics at firsthand and Kashmir to which I have an invitation"

PALME DUTT IN MADRAS

MADRAS, May 25. (A.P.I.): Mr. Rajani Palme Dutt, the British Communist leader, who arrived in the city this morning from Bezwada, was accorded a reception at the Central Station by the members of the local Communist Party.

Mr. Dutt motored to the residence of Dr. P. Subbaroyan, former Congress Minister, where he is staying.

He will address a workers' rally in the evening, and proceed to Golden Rock to-night

BENGAL LEAGUER'S ELECTION CHALLENGED

Hearing Before Election Tribunal Begins

CALCUTTA, May 24 (A.P.I.): The election tribunal appointed by the Government of India today commenced hearing of the petition filed by a voter that the election of Mr Tamizuddin Khan to the Central Legislative Assembly from the Dacca cum Mymensingh Mohammedan constituency should be set aside.

The candidates who contested the seat were Mr. Tamizuddin Khan and Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi. The petitioner, Syed Mohabat Ali Chaudhuri, alleged 'inter alia' that the election was liable to be declared void as it was held on the basis of illegal ballot papers: That it was not a free election by reason of the large number of cases in which undue influence had been exercised and that corrupt practices had been resorted to by Mr. Tamizuddin Khan and his agents.

The next hearing of the petition will be held on June 7.

Scholarships To Soldier Dependants

MADRAS, May 24 (A.P.I.): The Government of Madras have ordered the grant of scholarship to children and dependants of deceased and incapacitated soldiers from the next academic year. Students of primary classes will be given an scholarship of Rs. 5 a month, secondary special classes Rs. 10 a month, college classes Rs. 15 a month.

'TIMES' SUPPORTS GOVT. ON EGYPTIAN ISSUE

"Daily Herald" Accuses Conservatives Of Thinking Always In Terms Of War

LONDON, May 25 (Reuter): Commenting on the negotiations for the Egyptian Treaty revision the Labour "Daily Herald" today accuses conservatives of thinking always in terms of war.

The influential London "Times", which was once looked upon by the left-wing as an independent Conservative newspaper, but has recently been criticised in the Tory press as leaning too much to the left, today supports Government as 'facing realities"

"The very completeness of the process by which Egypt subordinated her entire administrative structure to the needs of the Allies", observes "The Times", "is itself among the causes of her present determination to reassert her independence now that the occasion for her self-abnegation has passed. Mr. Bevin's hints that British policy is now once more inclined to view the Middle East as a whole are more welcome as there is already reason to fear that the Middle East Secretariat of the Foreign Office and the small Middle East office in Cairo are inadequate substitutes for such wartime creations as a supply centre and a Minister Resident.

Three Conservative newspapers, "Daily Telegraph" Daily Express" and "Daily Sketch" criticised Government's policy with strategic arguments.

The Liberal "Manchester Guardian" says: "Mr. Churchill's persistent attacks on the Government's handling of foreign and commonwealth affairs are strengthening its position, not weakening it. The more Mr. Churchill shakes his head over Government's efforts for conciliation in India, the more cutting adjectives with which he denounces its methods of conciliation, the more virtue Indians and Egyptians are likely to see in them and more easily will our American friends recognise that the war has indeed brought a revolution in the British approach to international affairs.

ITALY REQUIRES LOAN OF WHEAT

ROME, May 24 (Reuter): Signor Alcid De Gasperi, the Italian Prime Minister, announced today that his Government has approached the British Government about the possibility of a substantial loan of wheat to tide over Italy's present most difficult period.

Britain could be repaid with wheat which would eventually be arriving from the United States he added.

FORTUNE OUT OF A DREAM

CANBERRA (By Air Mail): A dream tip has won Rs. 69.570 for a Sydney bookmaker and his wife. Mrs. Fred Empson woke from a dream at three o'clock one morning shortly before the big Easter meeting at Randwick, shouting "Blue Legend-Cordale." Her husband was so impressed that next day he took the double for the Doncaster and Sydney Cup, from Paddock fielder Abe Davis. He took Rs. 37,470 for himself and Rs. 32,100 for his wife. The price was 100 to 1. Bookmaker Empson said after both horses came home. "I take little interest in doubles, but my wife's dream was too vivid to ignore."

Dulles Hits At Russia

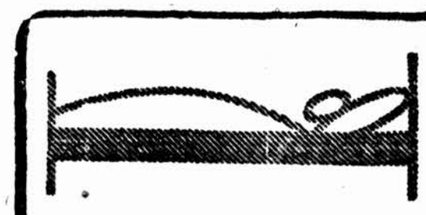
ATLANTIC CITY (New Jersey), May 25 (APA): John Dulles, lawyer and Republican consultant on international affairs, declared to-day that the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Paris failed because Soviet leaders consider American ideas of freedom obsolete. He added that the basic goal of Soviet foreign policy was the world-wide acceptance of their system.

POLICE DRIVE AGAINST HAWKERS IN CALCUTTA

CALCUTTA, May 25 (A.P.I.): The Calcutta Police are carrying out an intense drive against pavement hawkers in the city.

Police raids were organised yesterday on a number of areas where pavements hawkers and street vendors were most active. Goods obstructing the pavements were removed and some arrests were made.

A Corporation Councillor said that the hawker nuisance covered almost every part of the city and had become a great evil.



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Merchant's Sparkling Century Against M.C.C.

India Makes 373 For 7: Hazare Misses Century By 6 Runs

..ONE OF WORLD'S BEST OPENING BATS...

By Learie Constantine

LONDON May 25. (Reuter): Once again India's Vice-Captain Merchant stood in the breach when disaster threatened. Mainly through his great batting, India survived.. an early shock in their strongest fixture yet —against the M.C.C. side,.. mainly amateur in make-up. It was Merchant's brilliance which also helped India to recover from a middle of innings collapse.

BOMBAY PAIR COMBINE

In young Modi, Merchant found an able second wicket partner who survived a bad period and after holding on, came through to help add 125.

With the fall of Modi, the luckless Amarnath and Gul Mahomed, while the score changed from 144 to 149 India appeared in the danger of a serious breakdown. Pataudi holding himself back, sent in Hazare and this stylish right hander did so well that the fifth wicket pair put on 96 in 80 minutes before tea, when India was in a good position with the score 245 for 4.

Well as Modi and Hazare played, it was Merchant who.. carried the team on his shoulders. In putting up the highest innings of.. the tour, Merchant proved again that he is one of the world's finest.. opening batsmen.

Unlike the previous game at Leicester, the wicket was hard and fast, more resembling Merchant's own Bombay pitch and he altered his play accordingly. There was not a stroke in tht book that he did not employ and like the fine player he is, he took charge and successfully wore down Wyatt when the former England Captain threatened to run through the team with his medium-paced right arm late away swingers.

RUN OF FAILURES

Mushtaq Ali made a shocking stroke when apparently well set, and is in danger of playing himself out of the first test.

Amarnath's run of failures continues and naturally he is a very disappointed man. But all the members of the party are convinced that he will come off soon and then the troubles, mainly pshycological, will disappear.

The first appearance of the Indians at Lord's, attracted more than 20,000 spectators for the later stages of the play.

"In the enforced absence of their Captain it was a particularly good performance, even allowing that the wicket all along favoured run getting. Valentine used eight bowlers. Hazare was unlucky not to reach his second successive hundred. Without Merchant's spectacular skill, he always mastered the attack, yet his innings lacked colour.

Merchants' 148 gives him the seasons aggregate 488 with an average of 81.33. The Indians amply demonstrated that they are a strong batting side.

The official attendance was 20,172 receipts £2,512.

SCORE BOARD

INDIA—FIRST INNINGS.

Merchant c Wyatt b Davies	148
Mushtaq Ali b Gray	9
Modi b Wyatt	48
Amarnath b Wyatt	0
Gul Mahomed c Griffiths b Gray	2
Hazare b Marsham	94
Mankad c Edrich b Wyatt	11
Hindlekar not out	35
Sarwate not out	9
Extras (byes 13, leg-byes 3, no ball 1)	17
Total (for 7 wkts.)	373

Fall of wickets: 1 for 21, 2 for 144, 3 for 144, 4 for 149, 5 for 266, 6 for 296, 7 for 348.

BOWLING ANALYSIS

	O	M	R	W
Gray	31	7	100	2
Edrich	5	0	18	0
Mallett	24	6	56	0
Marsham	17	1	59	1
Davies	38	15	60	1
Singleton	4	0	16	0
Wyatt	17	6	34	3
Yardley	7	0	13	0

DETAILS OF PLAY

The weather was cloudy and cool, though the forecast was "sunny and warm" later in the day when the Indians began the seventh match of their tour at Lord's—the headquarters of English cricket—against the M.C.C., the strongest side they have so far encountered.

THE TEAMS

In the M.C.C. team previously announced one change was made, N. W. Yardley replacing P. A. Gibb.

The M.C.C. Team: Brian Valentine (Captain), R. E. S. Wyatt, H. A. B. Marsham, S. C. Griffith, H. T. Bartlett, N. W Yardley, G. S. W. Davies, A. P. Singleton, A. W. H. Mallett, W. Edrich and L. Gray.

INDIA: Pataudi (Captain), Merchant, Mushtaqali, Amarnath, Hazare, Mankad, Sarwate, Hindlekar, Modi, Gul Mohamed and Shinde.

Banerjee was still suffering from a slightly strained back muscle. All the others were fit and well.

Pataudi beat Valentine in the toss and decided to bat on a wicket that looked good for plenty of runs.

FIRST CASUALTY

The game opened quietly before 4,000 spectators.

Merchant and Mushtaq shaped confidently against Middlesex fast bowlers Gray and Edrich. Merchant snicked Gray for a four, otherwise the batsmen found no difficulty in the bowling on a hard, fast pitch. It was a big surprise, therefore, when in the first ten minutes, Mushtaq Ali threw away his wicket. A ball from Gray pitched short on the leg-stump and swung across. Mushtaq Ali attempted a big sweeping hit, but missed completely and the off-stump knocked back.

Slim and Stylish, Modi did not time the ball well at the start and with Merchant more cautious a slow period ensued

Later Merchant took nearly all the bowling and was equally at home against fast and slow men. India's Number one was adept in driving straight and finding open spaces at mid wicket.

Davies, the Kent slow bowler who received big publicity when at Cambridge in 1934 when he dismissed Bradman for a "duck", looked best of the M.C.C. Attack, and caught Modi in two minds more than once.

MERCHANT THE MASTER

Davies kept such an accurate length that six of his first eight overs were maidens.

Without risks, always master of the bowling, Merchant proceeded to his third successive half century in first class games. A straight drive for a single off Davies brought him 50 out of 82 in 95 minutes, including 6 fours.

The Worcester Captain, Singleton, tried his rightarm offbreaks at 86, but the quick-footed Modi hitting with the break, punished him with wristy hooks and pulls. Smart M.C.C. fielding stopped many hard hits.

Five minutes before lunch. Merchant sent up the hundred with a crashing off-drive placed skilfully between the ring of fieldsmen.

The crowd increased to about 15,000 when play was resumed beneath an overcast sky and a cold wind which made overcast necessary for most of the spectators.

Merchant was now looking for runs and repeatedly jumping out to Marsham's tossedup-leg leg-breaks. The partnership reached three figures when Merchant took a singe off Davies.

At 124 Gray took a new ball, with the former England captain, Wyatt, sharing the attack. Modi was beaten by a late swing off an outswerver to which he played inside and was clean bowled.

Amarnath survived only two balls and then this unfortunate batsman was beaten by Wyatt who flattered his leg stamp at the same total.

Merchant completed his second century of the season out of 168 runs in three hours ten minutes.

A MINOR COLLAPSE

The collapse continued when Gul Mahomed tried to repeat a leg glide off Gray and fell to a smart catch at the wicket by Griffith—England's expected wicketkeeper in the Tests.

Merchant unperturbed took another four this time off Wyatt against whom he concentrated so as to save his partners.

The game was held up for a few minutes to allow he overflow of the crowd, now exceeding 20,000 to sit on the grass in front of the packed stands.

When play was resumed, Merchant cut a noball from Gray with hammerblow force. The big crowd sat hushed while Merchant stood at 99 and then a perfect latecut took him to his second century of the tour in successive first class matches. He reached the three figures, out of 168, after batting 190 minutes. His grand innings pulled India out of the fire.

Wyatt resting after a successful spell, deserved figures of 9 Overs, 4 Maidens, 15 Runs, 2 Wickets.

Hazare, strong in cutting and turning the ball off his leg, helped Merchant in the recovery, the stand producing 53, when Merchant made a typical, vigorous drive through the covers off Mallett.

PLAY IN RAIN

The first over after tea, Hazare when 38, offered a leg side chance at the wicket off Davies.

Play continued in light rain. The bowlers had to utilise the towel to dry the ball and sawdust was brought out for better footholds. The rain increased intensity and the crowd began to seek shelter.

Merchant cut and pulled strongly still at 266 he played a leg break from Davies and Wyatt first slip took a neat catch low down with his right hand. Merchant batted just over four hours and a half and hit seventeen fours. The fifth wicket put on 117.

The rain now considerably eased off. Two to the leg gave Hazare 50.

Pataudi sent in Mankad at the wicket's fall.

The scoring went along slowly until at 296 Wyatt took another wicket, Mankad, never comfortable followed an away swinger and touched an easy catch to Edrich in the gulley.

Hazare and Hindlekar generally looked more intent on keeping their wickets intact than in pressing home India's strong position.

Still the light was not good and the bowling was maintaining its accuracy.

Hazare, who suddenly livened up, was beaten by a well-flighted leg break. He batted steadily for three hours and played a big part in a good score. He hit seven fours. Hindlekar and Sarwate showed that the Indian tail possesses plenty of sting by taking the score to 373, when Hindlekar had made 35 and Sarwate nine. It was a good day for India.

PATAUDI PULLS LEG MUSCLE

The Nawab of Pataudi is not likely to bat to-day unless he goes in last with a runner. He slipped on the stairs in pavilion during the afternoon and pulled a muscle at the back of his leg. He hopes to be fit to bat on Monday morning.

CALCUTTA LEAGUE

CALCUTTA, May 24 (A.P.I.): The two matches played today in the First Division of the Calcutta Football League resulted as follows:

B. A. Railway 2, Rangers 0.

Dalhousie 8, Customs 1.

ORANGE PAINT FOR ATOM TEST BATTLESHIP

WASHINGTON (Reuter): The battleship Novada, on which Japanese bombs fell at Pearl Harbour will be the bullseye for the bombardier in the atom bomb tests at Bikini Atoll.

A joint Army-Navy Task Force spokesman said, the 30-year-old capital ship, painted a bright orange to increase its visibility, will be the centre of the target fleet.

The bomb will be set to explode several hundred feet above the Novada, making it likely that the battleship will feel the heaviest effect of the explosion, including pressure, heat and radio-activity. Exact location of the targets, including battleships and carriers, has not been disclosed.

The Novada, adorned in her new coat of paint, is now at Terminal Island, California.

Repaired after the Pearl Harbour attack, the Novada took part in 52 bombardment missions in the Atlantic and Pacific campaigns.

SEARCH FOR UNIQUE FOSSILS

HOBART, TASMANIA (Reuter): A search has begun for unique Tasmanian fossils similar to those collected round Hobart more than a century ago by Charles Darwin.

The fossils sought are forms resembling present-day corals known as "laee corals", which lived in the Permian Age, perhaps 250 million years ago.

The collection made by Darwin during the visit of H. M. S. Beagle to Hobart in 1837 contained many hitherto unknown specimens. They were later housed in the British Museum.

The work is being carried out by Dr. S. W. Carey, Government Geologist, who is being assisted by a large party of senior pupils from Hobart public schools.

CANADIAN OIL BOOM

CALGARY, ALBERTA (Reuter): An oil drilling boom appears to be in prospect for the Lloydminster field on the boundary of Alberta and Saskatchewan as a result of the eruption of the first oil gusher which is producing steadily at the rate of 40 barrels an hour.

Oil gushed unchecked from the well for almost 48 hours until brought under control.

It is believed to be the largest well ever drilled that far north on the North American continent, 186 miles east of Edmonton.

FREEZING OF GUR STOCKS

The Public Relations Officer (Rationing) writes:—

The Government of Bombay has issued an order freezing all stocks of gur in excess of 5 Bengal Maunds held by any person whether on his own account or in partnership with any other person in Bombay City and the Bombay Suburban District. According to this order, any such stock which is frozen or any part thereof cannot be removed from any godown or place of storage or disposed of without a written permission from the Civil Supplies Department, Secretariat, Bombay.

Arrangements are being made for re-starting the sale of gur through the Government Grain Shops against ration cards. The rate of issue will be 2 lb. per ration card of head of family per week as hitherto.

R.I.N. ENQUIRY COMMISSION LEAVES FOR KARACHI

BOMBAY, May 25 (A.P.I.): The R. I. N. Inquiry Commission, consisting of Sir Saiyid Fazl Ali (Chairman), Mr. Justice M. C. Mahajan, Mr. Justice Krishnaswamy Ayyangar, Major-General T. W. Rees and Vice-Admiral W. R. Patterson, left Bombay for Karachi this morning by the H.M.S. Norfolk.

Former Chinese Diplomat As Titular Abbot

VATICAN CITY, May 25, (Reuter): The Pope has nominated Father Clestino Lou Cheng Chung as titular Abbot of the Monastery of Sainte Pierre Du Monde Blandin in Belgium. Fr. Cheng Chung, who joined the Catholic Church in 1911, is a former Chinese diplomat and statesman. In 1912 he was Foreign Minister and in 1915 Premier of the Chinese Republic. He became a benedictine monk in 1927.

First Television Network Opened

NEW YORK (Reuter): The opening in New York of America's first large-scale television studios at the department store of John Wanamaker's heralded a new era of sight-and-sound entertainment. It represented the world's first permanent television network, linking New York and Washington by coxial cable.

Reputed to be the worlds newest, biggest and most elaborate television installation, it will make possible the first public attendance at regularly-scheduled television programmes.

Eventually, the studios will be linked in a five-way hook-up—New York, Washington, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburg, with a potential audience of 20,000,000 persons. The network is expected to be expanded into a coast-to-coast hook-up.

Dange To Raise Food Issue At Moscow

BOMBAY, May 24: The question of Russian participation in the plan for the creation of an international food pool under the U.N.R.R.A. administration and the Soviet attitude towards the threatened famine in India will be raised directly with the Kremlin authorities by Mr. S. A. Dange, M. L. A., Bombay when he will visit Moscow shortly to attend the meeting of the World Trade Union Federation.

Mr. Dange will take off by air on May 28 from Karachi. He will firstly go to London and then to Paris from where he will fly to the Russian capital along with other members of the World Trade Union Executive.

The Session of the World T. U. C. Executive, which will commence on June 17, will be of special interest for all colonial and semi-colonial countries in view of the fact that the agenda contains an item that refers to the life and conditions in countries liberated from Japanese occupation.

The international Trade Union Federation at its last meeting appointed a Committee to make investigation into these facts. Though India does not come under this category, the industrial and other conditions in the country will be raised at the meeting by Mr. Dange.

Prior to his departure Mr. Dange will seek opportunity to explain his views in this respect. If time permits he will call a press conference on Monday failing that he will make his statement at a send off party which various labour unions of the City have arranged to give him at the Damodar Thakersey Hall on Monday at 9 p m

U.S. GRAIN SHIPMENTS TO INDIA

WASHINGTON, May 24 (Reuter): The United States State Department has issued a lengthy official statement which termed as "incorrect" statements that the United States has failed to ship grain to India. The statement declares that 105,000 tons of grains and flour were shipped from the United States to India during the first four months in 1946 and that shipments of 59,500 tons are planned for May (this is a considerable increase on the 20,000 tons which was all the United States had planned to ship to India in May prior to Mr. Morrison's visit.

No Commitments On India

Mr. Michael McDermott, Special Assistant to the United States Secretary of State, Mr. James Byrnes was questioned today about a statement yesterday by the British Minister Mr. Herbert Morrison that the United Sates has agreed to food exports to India at "a very much higher rate than in any previous year."

Mr. McDermott said: "On India we have no commitments. We are going to do the best we can."

Morrison To Explain

LONDON, May 25. (Reuter): Mr. Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council, will reply in the House of Commons early next week to allegations in Washington that his statement last Thursday misinterpreted the decisions reached during his recent consultations on the world food shortage with the President and other members of the United States Administration.

'TIMES' CRITICISES MORRISON

LONDON, May 24 (Reuter): World relief is "bedevilled by politics", the influential London "Times" declared today in an editorial on Lord Privy Seal Herbert Morrison's mission to Washington. The political aspects of the Minister's statement in Parliament yesterday formed the keynote of much newspaper comment this morning.

"The Times", writing of Mr. Morrison's reluctance to give actual figures of the quantities of grain the United States would divert to Germany and India, declared: "It is eloquent of the inadequacy of present international arrangements for meeting the international crisis that the Minister found himself compelled to adopt this attitude. In a world united in a common effort to combat the threat of famine wherever manifest, every country would take pride in announcing its contribution."

RICE SCARCITY IN BENGAL DISTRICTS

CALCUTTA, May 24 (A.P.I.): Uneasiness regarding the rice supply position is reported from two Bengal districts.

Considerable scarcity of rice prevails in the East Bengal district of Noakhali.

Apprehensions of food scarcity in the Mymensingh District were expressed in informal discussions held by the Education Minister with leading officials and non-officials.

ASSAM RICE FROM MADRAS

MADRAS, May 23 (A.P.I.): "Madras will get 15,000 tons of rice from Assam shortly", said Mr. C. H. Masterman, Commissioner of Civil Supplies, in an interview today.

Mr. Masterman also announced the arrival of 9040 tons of wheat from overseas a few days back at the Madras Port.

In order to conserve the stocks of rice in the province only 5/6ths of the present rice quota of the ration may be taken as rice. The balance may be taken in the form of whole wheat products or bread.

Talks are in progress in Cairo between the Representatives of the British and Egyptian Govts. about revision of 1936 Treaty. Photo shows a joint Conference of plenipotentiaries in session. Lord Stansgate head of the British Mission is seen speaking.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR DEMOBBED W.A.C.I.s

Govt. Of India To Establish Three Centres

NEW DELHI. May 25 (API.) Three centres for training demobilised W.A.C.(I) personnel will be started by the Directorate-General of resettlement and employment in pursuance of the Government's scheme for the vocational training of ex-service women. One is to be set up immediately in Delhi and the other two later on as the demobilisation of W.A.C (I) personnel proceeds.

In view of the large demands by women personnel, training will be given in the following subjects: Stenography, typing, commercial and clerical occupations, tailoring and dress-making, hair-dressing and beauty culture commercial art and interior decoration, cooking and confectionery and labour and social welfare work.

P.V.O. LEADERS ARRESTED IN RANGOON

RANGOON, May 25 (APA). A crowd of 300 persons staged a demonstration here on Thursday night when three squad leaders of the People's Volunteer Organisation were arrested for performing drill of a military nature.

The crowd accompanied the arrested men to the police station, shouting slogans, and then dispersed quietly.

The same night, four other P.V.O. members were arrested.

5 More Punjab Irrigation Workers Arrested

LAHORE May 24. (A. P I.): Five more strikers were arrested at the Punjab P. W. D irrigation works, this morning for picketting. This raises the number of arrests to 21

Mr Virendra M.L.A., Secretary of the Punjab Congress Assembly party, it is understood is approaching the Punjab Government on behalf of the strikers to bring about a compromise on the following conditions:—

To pay off for the lockout days, withdrawal of cases against the arrested persons and assurance of non-victimisation of the workers.

Russian Evacuation Of Manchuria Completed

NANKING, May 25. (APA).

Completion of the Russian evacuation of Manchuria was officially announced today.

The United States Reparations Commissioner, Edwin W. Pauley, announced that he was going to establish a base at Mukden soon to survey Manchurian industry. He expressed the belief that there was not much change of China recovering the machinery stripped by the Russians.

'EMERGENCY FOOD COUNCIL' TO COMBAT FAMINE

WASHINGTON, May 25 (Reuter): Final agreement was reached in Washington tonight on the creation of a new 20-nation "international emergency food council" to start work immediately in the battle against world famine.

It will continue its work until the end of 1947 pending the establishment of a permanent United Nations Food body.

The plan awaits only formal approval by the final plenary session of the conference of UNO's food and agricultural organisation which is meeting on Monday.

JAVA VOLCANO ACTIVE

BATAVIA, May 25 (Reuter). Mount Semeroe a 12057-foot volcano near Java's east coast, is today, erupting ashes, rocks and mud, the Indonesian paper "Merdeka" reported.

So far it has destroyed nearly 100 houses and about 370 acres of rice-field, and has caused flooding.

STREET DOGS CARRY 'QUIT KASHMIR' PLACARDS

SRINAGAR (Kashmir), May 25 (A.P.I.): Three Communists and eleven others were arrested today on charges of subversive activities. Attempts were made to form rocessions and address groups of people in Srinagar but the police and military promptly dispersed the crowds. An attempt to set fire to gandherbal bridge was foiled by the timely arrival of the polce.

There are no reports of any trouble in the country side. An amusing feature today was that street dogs were seen with placards bearing "Quit Kashmir" tied round their necks.

CONGRESS-LEAGUE PRESSURE POLITICS

(Continued from Page 8.)

Cripps' amplification of the British plan. Sir Stafford said that while the other parts of the statement were mere recommendations: "It has been decided to make a start with constitution-making right away. What it does mean is that the deadlock which has prevented a start on the process of constitution making is to be removed once and for all."

In the absence of Congress-League acceptance of he plan, it is doubtful if a start can be made even with the Constitution-making machinery.

Mission circles, however, hope that the Congress and the League are playing at pressure politics and would ultimately accept the plan with slight modifications in details.

Another view is that the Mission in the absence of an agreement, should declare the plan as an award. The next fortnight will give sufficient time to all the three parties to make up their minds. Now it is about a fortnight's adjournment.

CONGRESS LEGISLATURE PARTY

At a meeting of the Madras Congress Legislature Party 10 members including Mr. Avinasilangam Chettiar, Minister for Education, Mr. V. V. Giri, Minister for Labour, and Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi, Minister for Public Health, were elected to the Executive Committee of the party.

Punjab Govt. Warns Press

No More Reports Inciting Communal Discord

LAHORE, May 25. (A.P.I.): The Punjab Government has issued a "last warning" to the Punjab Press against publication of matter which incites communal discord. Mr. A. A. MacDonald, Home Secretary to the Punjab Government, in the course of a Press Communique, says, that if there is no immediate radical improvement in the tone of the writings in the Press, Government will take action against the offending newspapers either by the passing of orders under Rule 41 of the Defence of India Rules requiring the worst offenders to submit articles for censorship before publication, or by requiring the offending journals to deposit heavy securities.

Mr. MacDonald concludes: "Although Government is reluctant to take this action against the Press, it will have no alternative if the Press does not itself cease from publishing matter which provokes communal hatred and endangers the peace of the province.

"The publication of speeches of leaders no matter who they are, which tend to inflame and excite communal passions is definitely included in matter which Government regard as forming good grounds for serious action".

Home Minister At Progressive Group Meeting

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A pincer was directed against Mr. Homi J. H. Talyarkhan, President of the Progressive Group, at the Green's this evening, when Mr. Morarji Desai, Home Minister, addressed the meeting. On the one hand a member present objected to Mr. Talyarkhan's introductory remarks being in English, and on the other hand, the Home Minister said that he was grieved at the adamant behaviour of the President who insisted on speaking in English, despite the reasonable objection from the audience.

In a very out-spoken manner, Mr. Morarji Desai said that he failed to see any sort of "progress" in the Progressive Group. Simply arranging lectures and listening to sermons could not be termed as 'progress.' In the speaker's view, what was required was action. Without action, he said, there would be intellectual stagnation.

PROFITTEERING

"You hear from every direction that the black marketeers should be severely dealt with," the speaker went on to say, "but has anyone of you made it a point not to encourage these profiteers."

He opined that what was required today was a change of heart: by a mere stroke of the pen, nothing could improve satisfactorily in the administration. Every citizen must known how to exercise his rights and perform his duties well, he added.

In conclusion, the Home Minister appealed to the public to extend their co-operation to the popular cabinet.

SPORTS JOTTINGS FROM HERE AND THERE

By J. C. MAITRA

BOMBAY ATHLETES' DISSATISFACTION. SEPARATE CONTROLLING BODIES FORMED. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR ATHLETICS. BADMINTON STARS FROM AUSTRALIA; SOCCER TEAM FOR SOUTH AFRICA? TATA SPORTS' RESOUNDING SUCCESS. KILLEDAR CUP FOR PROCTOR LADIES. INDIAN CRICKETERS' PROGRESS. "JACK HOBBS OF INDIA." GAPS IN OUR BOWLING STOCK.

Papen (Tata)

For some time past there has been a good deal of dissatisfaction among the athletes in Bombay in regard to the management of the B.P.O.A. It has found expression in the press and elsewhere off and on. Even the athletic fields have not been spared by unsavoury scenes and incidents. Of course this dissatisfaction could be removed by a joint action on the part of the athletes themselves. But they preferred to wait and give the authorities a long rope. They hoped that time and circumstances would change things for the better. When the I.O.A. decided to decentralize the various branches of sport under its control, it was hoped that the B.P.O.A. would take early steps to form separate controlling bodies for each. Ten months have passed since then without any action being taken by it. Meanwhile the I.O.A. has formed a national body for the control of athletics in India.

SEPARATE CONTROLLING BODIES FORMED

In view of the inactivity on the part of the rulers of the B.P.O.A. in this respect, some individuals who are keenly interested in cycling took a hand in the formation of a controlling body for cycling in the province. With 'Daggie' Moir, a former President of the W.I.F.A. as its Chairman, they formed an Association which has been duly affiliated to the B.P.O.A And when the national body for cycling is formed, it is sure to be affiliated to it.

Next came the turn for athletics. A meeting was held at the "Times of India" Sports Club last Tuesday when as many as 74 individuals, including representatives of 29 clubs and a fair sprinkling of sportswomen. I had the honour to preside over this gathering. The conveners of the meeting who are well-known in the sporting world of the city and the province, were anxious to form a controlling body at once, while there were some who wanted to make a request to the B.P.O.A. to form it as early as possible.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR ATHLETICS

After a good deal of discussion, during which David Abraham, on behalf of the conveners, assured everybody that their move was not against the B.P.O.A. in any way, the meeting decided by an overwhelming majority—in fact there was only one dissentient voice when the final counting was taken—the body, called the Bombay Provincial Amateur Athletic Association, was formed.

Then an Organising Committee of 19 members, including several of those who are in the B.P.O.A. Committee or who had a hand in the establishment of the Association, was elected. They have been authorised to frame the Constitutions, and rules and regulations, and get the B.P.A.A. affiliated to the B.P.O.A. and with their sanction affiliate it to the I. A. A. F.

I understand the draft rules are all ready. As soon as the Organising Committee approves of them the B.P.A.A.A. will go ahead with its constructive programme. Keenly interested all these persons are in the promotion of athletics, I have every hope that the new body will be quite a live one.

BADMINTON STARS FROM AUSTRALIA

Badminton lovers all over the country will be delighted to hear that a team of Australian stars—four men and two women—would pay a visit to India for a couple of months—from September 18 to November 10—this year. And Bombay will be the first to receive them. This game has gained tremendous popularity in our city—and other parts of the country as well—during the last few years. But I don't know whether they will be able to bear the high expenses of the tourists. I am sure the All-India Badminton Council will not take the risk unless they feel that they are in a position to foot the bill. If the visits by foreign teams in other games like Lawn Tennis are any indication, we may expect the Badminton players visit to be thoroughly successful. I understand that a move has been made to start a world competition on the lines of the Davis Cup for tennis in the near future. Let us hope that it will materialise soon.

Mandon (Tata)

SOCCER TEAM FOR SOUTH AFRICA?

I am rather surprised to read in the papers that a Bangalore Club, named Aryan Gymkhana, is thinking of sending a soccer team to South Africa in July next at the invitation of the Indian Football Association there. In view of the present situation in South Africa I fail to understand how any Indian can think of sending a touring side of sportsmen there. It is well-known that Boers do not want us—even their sportsmen have not the desire or courage to meet our representatives on the sporting field. So why seek a humiliation for no other reason than its fulfilment. I am sure the A.I.F.F. will turn down their request for permission as it did in the case of the I.F.A. of Calcutta a few months ago.

TATA SPORTS RESOUNDING SUCCESS

Contrary to expectations, Tata Sports Club defeated Trades India by the substantial margin of 3 goals to nil in the third 'leg'—I am not sure of this term. 'E.J.' should put us wise—of the Nadkarni Cup final. There is no doubt that the winners fully deserved their victory. They excelled the losers in every department of the game. Mandon, Papen and Thingalaya, in particular, came out of the fray with flying colours. They presented a veritable Chinese Wall which the invaders found almost impossible to penetrate. They might have succeeded, had they worked harder and more concertedly.

Manuel (Trades)

Barring Parab, none of the forwards showed an inclination to share the attacking operations in a systematic manner. Unless they change their tactics, they are not likely to win greater laurels this season.

KILLEDAR CUP FOR PROCTOR LADIES

The hockey season has at last come to an end. But nobody could say—till the Killedar Cup was through—that the fans were fed up with the game. In fact many people were surprised to see the large crowd which attended this final. They remarked that women's hockey has caught on. And this is perfectly true. It is also agreed, that the general standard of their play has improved considerably. I am glad this trophy went to the Proctor Ladies—even though they did not deserve their victory on the run of play. A snap goal enabled them to carry the Cup home. But it is extremely doubtful if they could have retained their hold had not little Pansy Thomas protected the 'circle' with all the alacrity, resourcefulness—and above all, ability a master. Bad luck, Greys! But even in your defeat you have emerged with credit.

INDIAN CRICKETERS' PROGRESS

It is really very gratifying to learn that our cricketers are doing exceedingly well in England, despite the various handicaps they have been labouring under since their arrival in that country. What with cold and rain, they are finding the conditions pretty uncomfortable. Still they have won twice and drawn twice, with one narrow defeat to their account. But more heartening are the centuries which our batsmen have commenced piling up. After Sarwate and Banerjee showed the way, Modi, Pataudi, Merchant and Hazare have all recorded centuries on their own accounts. I have every hope that we shall hear more of them—and others too—as the season proceed.

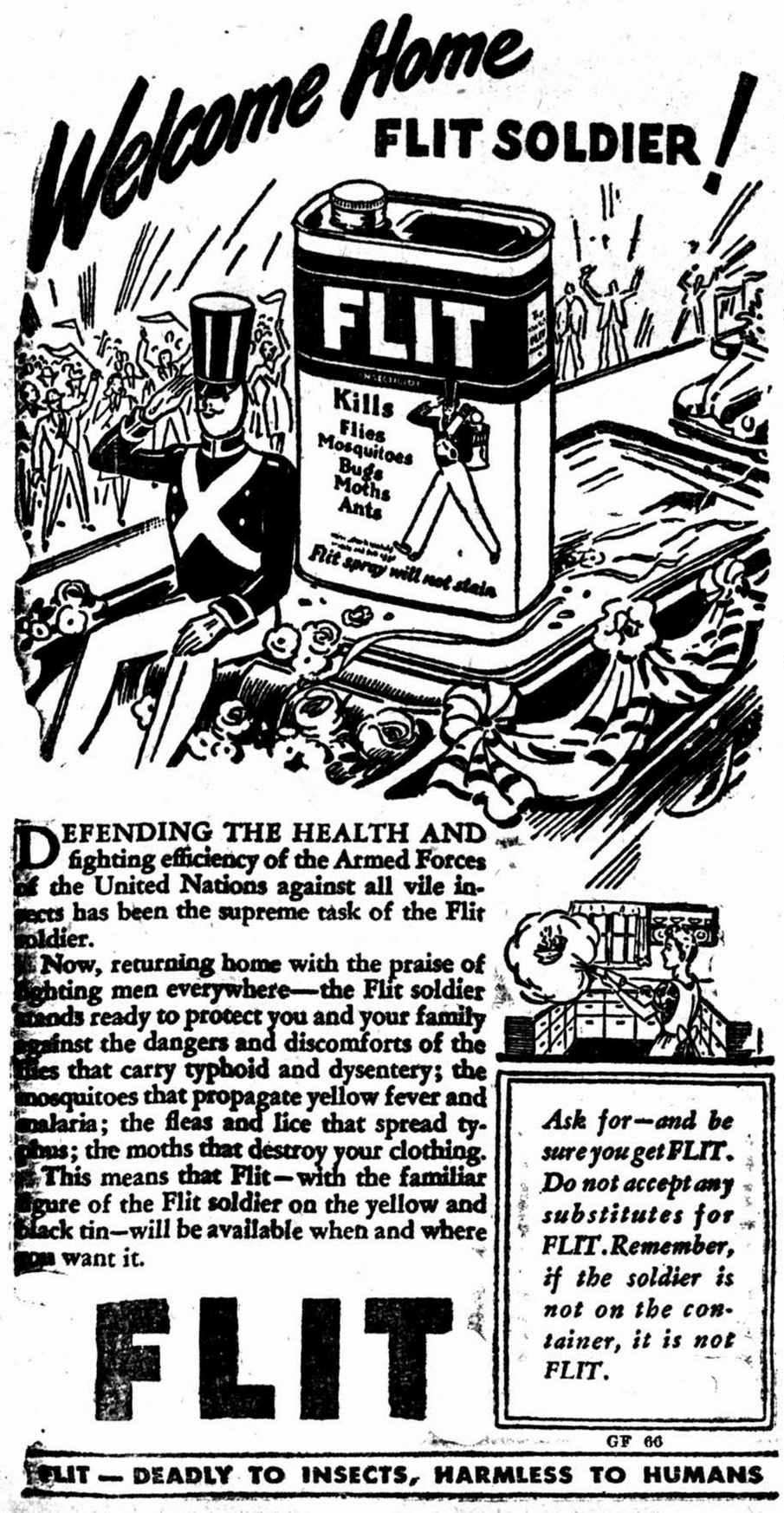
"JACK HOBBS OF INDIA"

The best batting performance, according to Duleep Sinhji, is that of Vijay Merchant at Leicester. Writing in the "Free Press Journal", he says, "At the end of the second day there was no need to say that Merchant had played a fine innings. The day previous I said that his 54 not out was the best innings of the tour, and on Monday Merchant carried on the good work when his colleagues were in difficulties. Here is a cricketer who can get his hundred on a good C.C.I. wicket a hundred on a crumbling Eden Gardens wickets against the Australian spin bowlers and now a hundred on a rain damaged wicket in England when seven of his colleagues at the other end could only collect 75 between them. Here is a batsman who is at home on all sorts of wickets. He is the Jack Hobbs of India.

GAPS IN OUR BOWLING STOCK

Commenting further on the Leicester match Duleep says, "The wicket was still difficult on the third day. Once again the value of good fielding was proved when Sohoni took a fine catch to dismiss Berry. For with so support for Berry at the other end the rest of the Leicester batsmen were skittled out for a few runs. I expected Mankad or one of the googly bowlers to do the damage but Amarnath had the honour.

Ghulam Mahomed of Hyderabad would have been a very useful bowler on this wicket. His type is very useful on a tour, for, on a damaged wicket he is an attacking bowler, and on a good wicket he would be a stock bowler who would give rest to the fast and spin bowlers without giving away many runs. A well-balanced attack must have a bowler of Ghulam Mahomed's type, for he can be worked hard. Our present position is that Hazare and Amarnath are being used for this purpose and in the end it is bound to affect their batting.



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Atomic Test Will Be Best Recorded Scientific Experiment

The atomic bomb test known as "Operation Crossroads" in Bikini Atoll, in the Pacific, will probably be the best recorded scientific experiment of many years. July 1 is the date set for the first test, with the second to be held as soon thereafter as possible.

The first test will be photographed from all angles by remote-controlled and long-range cameras, in stills and in motion pictures, both from fixed positions and from airplanes. Batteries of radio operated cameras are to be mounted on 100-foot towers heavy enough to withstand the effects of the blast. These towers will not be more than five to ten miles from the core of the target area, and the cameras must be shielded by heavy lead walls. Inside their lead housings the cameras will be placed in airtight water-proof boxes. They will photograph through windows which close automatically after exposure to exclude the effects of radiation on the film emulsion.

Special protection is needed against the heat created by the atomic explosion. The lenses will be covered by heavy neutral density filters which by means of photo-cells will be removed an instant after the flash has occurred. The filters are needed because it is feared that otherwise so much heat might penetrate through the lense that even non-inflammable film would be brought to the melting point.

Results of the photographic recordings are not expected before several weeks after the explosion because radiation will prevent access to the photo-towers. Available earlier will be those photos to be taken by so-called Fairchild radar cameras, from remote-controlled airplanes, and from manned craft which will operate at altitudes of up to 30,000 feet.

97 NAVAL UNITS AS TARGETS

Ninety-seven naval units will be targets in the atomic bomb test, Vice-Admiral W. Blandy, who commands the test, announced recently before the atomic committee of the U.S. Senate. A joint task force of 147 naval units in all, 50 of themo perational, with scientists, Navy, Army, and Air men, and a crew of 20,000, has been entrusted with the test by the joint Chiefs of Staff with President Truman's approval.

In the first test an aerial bomb will be exploded several hundred feet above the targets. The second test will be a burst at the surface.

The target ships include four battleships, two carriers, 16 destroyers, five submarines transports and other craft, all U.S. surplus, and one Japanese battleship, and one Japanese and one German cruiser.

The target fleet, experts expect, may be hit by pressure blasts of hundreds of thousands of pounds a square inch, winds up to 1,000 miles per hour, waves as high as 100 feet, heat waves reaching 100,000,000 degrees Fahrenheit, and intensive radiation.

Admiral William H. Blandy told a recent press conference that as a result of the tests medical and scientific officers expect to acquire "knowledge of inestimable medical and biological value in the advancement of science." Several hundred pigs and goats and 3,000 white rats will be used in the tests.

Captain A. Harold Draeger of the Navy Medical Corps explained that the decision to employ animals was made only after all available means for measuring mechanically the anticipated physical and biological effects of atom bomb explosions had been inesvtigated and proved inadequate.

BIKINI ISLANDERS PROVIDED NEW HOMES

Meanwhile, the Navy has announced that the entire population of Bikini Atoll—167 men, women, children—has been moved to Rongerik Atoll, previously uninhabited, 109 miles east of Bikini, in the Marshall Islands. New homes have been constructed on Rongerik Atoll by the Army and Navy for former Bikini residents.

A joint Army-Navy announcement has stated that logistic support for "Operation Crossroads" compares in size and detail with that of an amphibious invasion. Rations and supplies for 35,000 men are being arranged by a corps of Army-Navy personnel under the supervision of Brig. Gen. H. Blakelock, assistant chief of staff for logistics.

Dr. Norris E. Bradbury, director of the Los Alamos laboratory (Santa Fe, New Mexico) of the atomic bomb project, in a recent statement, pointed out that too much emphasis may have been placed on the number of ships involved in the test. He said a large percentage of these ships is not expected to receive serious damage, adding that a number are to carry important instruments which will record the data necessary to interpret properly the results of the test.—USIS.

Growth Of Nationalist Sentiment In Indian Army

(Continued from Page 5)

minds of the Indian soldiers was to let them feel their marked inferiority as individual soldiers and as battalions to the British troops. The first was assured by securing that the latter should have the superior weapon, and the second was met by the observance of a principle which exerted a strong moral influence on the native mind, viz., that the British Regiment should always be stronger that the Indian Battalion alongside of it. Whenever brought in contact with a British Regiment, let the native soldier feel that "his corps would be as a child is to a man, as compared with the strong British Battalion with its deadly rifles".10 Sir Henry Durand wrote a forceful Minute in defence of the proposal to give better arms to the Indian army. "In the employment of mercenary levies there is and always must be risk, both to the officers and to the state. But the risk is not diminished by a policy of galling mistrust. If loyalty be expected, confidence must be shown".11 To this Sir John Strachey retorted—"I answer that I expect little loyalty, and therefore I will not show confidence".12 To Sir Henry Durand's protests against a policy of 'timid mistrust' Sir John Strachey rejoined, "I see no ti idity in refusing to place men who may any day become our enemies in a position almost as strong as that of our own British soldiers".13

DISTRUST OF 'MERCENARY ARMY'

The Government of India embodied their opinions in the Military Despatch to the Secretary of State—"After the events of 1857, which it is impossible to forget, and which it would be unwise to ignore, blind and implicit confidence in a mercenary native army liable to be swayed by sudden, and to us, almost unaccountable impulses and prejudices, is out of the question, and the show or pretence of such a feeling would more probably be viewed as a symptom of weakness than as a proof of trust".14 The Duke of Argyll, the Secretary of State for India, rightly struck a note of caution against the policy of mistrust advocated by the Government of India. "I trust that the Government of India will never be induced to forget the long previous fidelity of the Native Army or be driven to adopt towards it a policy of exaggerated suspicion. Such a policy would imply not only an unreasonable distrust in them, but an unreasonable loss of confidence in ourselves. It is by the power we have shown to inspire confidence, and to secure attachment in Indian troops, that the Indian Empire has been acquired, and if this power has been really lost, the Empire will not long be kept. It is impossible that the army, by which we hold India, should ever be more than partially European. It must always be Native in sufficient proportion to make it highly dangerous if it be not faithful. After all, we must never forget that the Great Mutiny of 1857 was itself suppressed by the aid of Native troops. If our power of subduing the Native races to our military service, and of making them proud of it, had been ever seriously impaired, that contest would certainly have had a different course, and might even have had a very different result".15 The Secretary of State, therefore, decided that "no ban should be laid upon the arming of native troops as such, with the best available arms of precision". In actual practice, however, the Indian soldiers were not supplied with as efficient weapons of warfare as the Europeans.

But in the Second World War this invidious distinction could not be rigidly observed. Indians served in different departments of the army as gunners, surveyors, engineers, etc. They joined the R.A.F., R.I.A.F. and R.I.N. in large numbers. The great majority of Indian soldiers felt a professional loyalty that served as a substitute for patriotic native. Lacking "the patriotism, the pride of race, the feeling of nationality, and the personal attachment between the State and its defenders," the fidelity of the native mercenary army could not be ensured at a critical moment in the fortunes of the British empire. As rightly pointed out by Sir Richard Temple, "if the British Government should ever seem to stagger under the shock of any kind of adversity, the fidelity of the native army must necessarily be dubious. That army cannot possibly have the same motives for fighting to the bitter end, for standing faithful to the utter extremity, which the European army has. The faith of the Native soldier in the star of British fortune is so strong and clear that it will not be easily dimmed; but if it were to become obscured, some catastrophe would ensue".16 In 1942 when the fortunes of the British Empire were at the lowest ebb and when the British had lost Singapore and Burma, the fidelity of the Indian soldiers could not be ensured and thousands of Indian soldiers and officers joined in large numbers the Indian National Army.

RACIAL ARROGANCE

(iv) THE CULT OF RACIAL SUPERIORITY.—The British officers made popular the cult of racial superiority. The following extract from Sir Frederick Robert's Minute dated 18th May 1888 throws much light on this aspect of the British military administration in India:—"Admitting for the sake of argument that the Native can be trained up to the same standard of military science as his British Confrere, and granting that individually the Native gentlemen may be as brave as the Englishmen, it still remains a fact that the strength and force of leadership are an attribute of race. The power of dominating the wills of men, which carries them forward in battle and controls them in quarters, belongs to the stronger nature; and speaking as I am, not in public, but in the Council Chamber, it is not a vain-glorious boast to claim for the British race a superiority over other races in this quality of command. The British upper middle class which furnishes so unlimited a supply of officers has scarcely a parallel among European nations. There are races as brave as the British, but they have not the faculty of command in the same degree".17 This arrogant claim of English racial superiority proved to be a myth when Japan, an Asiatic Power, drove the British forces pell mell out of Singapore, Malaya and Burma. The English prestige suffered a serious blow. The slogan of 'Quit India' made an irresistable appeal to millions of Indians. The nation was deeply stirred against the alien rule. Hitherto the national movement had been confined to the towns and to the larger villages where town influences were felt. But now some of the peasantry in remoter districts and smaller hamlets began dimly to apprehend the national aspirations. The growth of the nationalist sentiment in the Indian army is directly associated with the great nationalist upheaval of 1942. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, ardent champion of Indian nationalism, summed up for the world India's New Year mood: "We will not willingly submit to any empire or any domination, and will revolt against it. It will be a continuing revolt of millions, with a passion behind it which even the atomic bomb will not suppress".

1. *Argyll's Military Despatch; No.* 51, 25 *Feb.* 1869.
2. *Indian Army Organization Commission (Eden)* 1879, *p.* 93.
3. *Wood's Military Letter: No.*107, 16 *March* 1863.
4. *Ibid.*
5. *Sir Richard Temple, India in* 1880 *p.* 392.
6. *Minute of Denison; Military Progs; Aug.* 1865; *No.* 298.
7. *Minute by Lawrence* 22 *Sep.* 1866; *Military Progs; Nov.* 1866; *No.* 68.
8. *Minute by Roberts* 18 *May* 1888; *Minutes, Notes, etc. by Sir Frederick Roberts vol* VI *part* I *p.* 251.
9. *Adjutant General to Government of India* 29 *Feb.* 1868; *Military Progs; April* 1868; *No.* 414.
10. *Memorandum by Norman* 18 *March* 1868; *Military Progs; Ap.* 1868; *No.* 415.
11. *Minute by Durand* 3 *Ap.* 1868; *Durand's Minutes Vol* II *pp.* 386-394.
12. *Minute by Strachey* 18 *Ap.* 1868; *Military Progs; April* 1868; *No.* 419.
13. *Ibid.*
14. *Military: Separate letter to Secretary of State; No.* 400; 17 *Oct.* 1868.
15. *Argyll's Military Despatch; No.* 51; 25 *Feb.* 1869.
16. *Sir Richard Temple; India in* 1880; *p.* 395.
17. *Minute by Roberts op. cit.*

AN American soldier went round telling everyone that he had always heard the English were fools, and now he knew it.

It seems that in the remote countryside of Oxfordshire he was given a lift in a pony trap by one of our retired colonels. Every hundred yards or so the colonel took a pinch of powder from a packet and threw it on the road behind. He gave no explanation and at last the mystified American asked what it was.

"Anti-lion powder," replied the old warrior briskly.

"I don't know much about England," said the soldier, "but surely there aren't any lions in Oxfordshire?"

The colonel fixed him with a steady stare.

No, there are not," he said. Then he added: "It's just-as well, too, because this anti-lion powder is no dam' good"

THE new attendant at the spiritualist circle had formerly been employed in a big drapery shop The fact came to light when a client requested him to tell the medium she wished to speak with Mr. Gree

"Certainly, madam," said the attendant. "Can you give me his Christian name?"

"I'm afraid I've forgotten it, but he died only a short time ago."

The attendant cleared his throat and approached the medium

"Please show the lady some of the latest shades of Green." he sa

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

Is this the way the world (of imperialism) ends—

Not with a bang but a whimper?

Transported, at a few hours notice and by special train carrying press correspondents and political leaders including Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, from the cool heights of Simla to the heat and the dust-storms of New Delhi I have been asking myself this question ever since that historic 5000-word document was handed to the hundred and odd assembled journalists by the Secretary of State for India.

I have read the full text of the statement issued in the name of the Cabinet Delegation and the Viceroy with the care that it deserved. I have duly—and gratefully—noted that it speaks of the "Indian PEOPLE" and not the "Indian PEOPLES," a phrase which Sir Stafford Cripps was fond of using during the ill-fated negotiations that he single-handed carried on in 1942. (An 'S', more or less, may be a small matter but it could make all the difference between success and failure in political negotiations. Perhaps Sir Stafford might have succeeded in his 1942 Mission if only he had omitted the unnecessary 'S'.....) It is a relief to find that the Mission has rejected Pakistan of Mr. Jinnah's conception, though it is obvious that the Three Groups Scheme is (which, it seems, the provinces are free to join but *not free not to join!*) is quite a substantial substitute offered to appease the League Fuehrer. Wading through the whereases and the wherebys I have tried to digest the statistics and the tables and the charts and the clauses and the sub-clauses and, after unsuccessfully consulting seven dictionaries, got a rough idea of that brand new phrase—"opt out". I have even followed Mahatma Gandhi's advice and read the text of the statement translated in all the various Indian languages that I know.

But there is one vital phrase which I have failed to find anywhere in the 5,000 words of the statement: FROM NOW ON INDIA IS COMPLETELY, UNCONDITIONALLY FREE. Surely it could not have been left out for brevity's sake.

*

When Freedom Comes!

Perhaps I am being fussy and politically naive to expect such a bald statement to announce the transfer of power to Indian hands. It may be pointed out that at the very beginning, the Statement quotes the words of Premier Attlee wherein he promised that the Mission was coming to India "with the intention to of using their utmost endeavour to help her to attain her freedom as speedily and as fully as possible". Again, the statement closes with the hope that "the new independent India" might choose to remain within the British Commonwealth of Nations. The Commander-in-Chief has graciously announced his willingness to work *"Hindustani war Member sahib kay ueechay"*--as he put it in his Hindustani broadcast to his javans! Shouldn't allthis, coupled with the promise of an interim government to be immediately formed and the Constituent Assembly (at last the phrase popularized by the Congress has been accepted) to be convened soon, add up to a declaration of independence?

Perhaps it should. Perhaps it does! And yet, one has always thought and dreamt of Freedom to be ushered in a more dramatic, more exciting, more spectacular, and more decisive manner.

I am sure many of us had some favourite vision of the advent of Indian independence. Some, no doubt, imagined and were prepared to reach the national goal through a bloody revolution. Others perhaps thought in terms of a mammoth and spectacular country-wide General Strike forcing the foreign Bureaucracy to abdicate in favour of a government of the people of this country. If some favoured a sudden *coup d'etat* in the tradition of European revolutions, others anticipated with excitement an Indian version of the storming of the Bastille and a revolutionary army (violent or non-violent) marching up to the Viceregal Lodge in New Delhi, hauling down the Union Jack from its ramparts and replacing it with the national tricolour. It might have been a little fantastic to imagine a symbolical departure of all the British officials by the S. S. *Viceroy of India*, in literal compliance with the QUIT INDIA resolution of August 1942, but at least one had a right to expect the 'dethronement' of the Viceroy, the Commander-in-Chief and other high British officials who, either personally or through their minions, have been responsible for the repression and misery of the people of this country.

Most of us had, of course, no clear-cut notion of the precise form the advent of independence would take, but one did expect something exciting to happen to change the entire mood of four hundred million people, to make them walk erect with new-found dignity and pride, their heart-beats singing the happy refrain: WE ARE FREE! WE ARE FREE!! Only the most moderate among the Moderates could have foreseen or forecast things to come in the shape of a five thousand word statement out of which hardly half a dozen words are devoted to the exciting theme of freedom.

*

The Question Mark!

Does this Statement, as clarified by the Secretary of State at his press conference and by the Viceroy in his broadcast, spell FREEDOM for India? Or is it one more postponement of the vital issue? Or is it a device to offer Freedom and then to hedge it round with such conditions as to make the functioning of that Freedom impossible? Or, with all its imperfections, does it really open out before us the vista of independence? These questions should be, and no doubt will be, answered by our national leaders. The CHRONICLER is no political analyst but only a recorder of the moods—the hopes and the fears, the aspirations and the exasperations—of the common people. All I know and can say is that as the journalists trouped out of the Assembly Chamber with the Secretary of State's statement in their hands, the Union Jack was still flying over the Viceregal Lodge. Next day when the people read of the statement in their daily papers their faces did not become suddenly lighted with hope, and their minds were still worried by food shortage, cloth scarcity, unemployment and lack of housing accommodation.

And as in Calcutta three years earlier, Hunger stalked the streets of Delhi and New Delhi in the form of dark-bodied destitutes from the south with hands stretched out for charity and a mute question mark in their sunken lifeless eyes: Will Freedom be too late for us, as it was for several millions of our brothers and sisters in Bengal?

*

Hypocrisy, Thy Name Is. . . .

Whether it is Freedom near Freedom or pseudo-Freedom, I am afraid History will record that the last Act of the Indo-British drama was marked by a singular lack of grace and dignity on all sides. Our own leaders' naive faith in British sincerity, after numerous disillusionments during the last thirty years is as exasperating as the pious and patronizing airs of the Cabinet Delegation. It is typical of British imperialist hypocricy that when she is forced by the impact of history and the determination of a people to be free to relax her stranglehold she pretends that she has all along been a votary of freedom and equality!

"The British Commonwealth and Empire", said Premier Attlee in March last when announcing the despatch of the present Delegation, "is not bound together by chains of external compulsion". And another of his Party members, Mr. T. Reid who confessed to have eaten the salt declared the other day in the House of Commons: "We are following the traditions and genius of our race, which is to spread the flag of liberty all over the British Empire". But the limit of hypocricy is reached when Hannen Swaffer who calls himself a Socialist indulges in such patently imperialistic falsification of history: "No, we have not been altogether wrong in India .....in India it was we who abolished plague, healed lepers, opened schools, abolished widow burnings and sought to end child marriages. It was not we who invented the caste system, cow worship or hatred between various religions.... Anglo-Indian officialdom was often harsh but it was honest".

Need one go into the sordid record of the British raj in India over the last hundred and fifty years—from the exploits of Clive and Hastings to the machine-gunning of unarmed civilians in 1942—or should one take it that Swaffer now in his dotage is talking through his famous old black hat?

The point to consider, however, is that such statements only confirm that it is not sincerity but the opportunistic desire to make the best of a bad bargain, to salvage some good will plus some commercial privileges plus India's support in the event of a third (anti-Soviet?) war, that is responsible for Britain's alleged "change of heart". For if they were sincere they would have been penitent and not patronizing, and the declaration of India's independence would have begun with a confession of Britain's historic guilt in causing India's political enslavement, economic ruination and cultural degradation through a century and a half of imperialist rule.

I am amused when I read that British and American newspapers are gloating over the phenomenon of a great Empire voluntarily liquidating itself. For we in India know what is making Britain quit India—or at least making a show of it. Thousands have had to die, millions have had to suffer imprisonment and torture and beatings and loss of property to bring home to imperialist Britain the fact that her presence in India is repugnant in the extreme to India's four hundred millions. The road to freedom was not paved by British good intentions but by the blood and bones of countless patriotic martyrs. If any gratitude is due it is to them and their glorious memory.

*

Hour Of Humiliation

If it is the hour of rank opportunism for Britain, it is no moment of glory for India, either. If Britain has lacked in grace in conceding our freedom, we have lacked in dignity in taking it away from them. After fifty years of increasingly bitter anti-imperialist struggle, surely it was not befitting our national honour to accept our adversary as the arbiter of our destiny and the patronizing mediator in our internal differences.

For me the hour of humiliation was 8 p.m. on Sunday May 12 in the lounge of the Cecil Hotel, Simla. A group of Indian and foreign correspondents were waiting for a telephone call from the Viceregal Lodge where the Tripartite Conference was holding, what turned to be, its last session. There was a melancholy sick-bed—or rather, deathbed—atmosphere, as every one knew the Conference was bound to fail. The desultory talk was carried on in mock medical terms: The patient is sinking, Penicilin treatment is being started, Artificial respiration has been resorted to, Oxygen cylinders have been ordered, etc.

Then the telephone bell rang and every one rushed to the Receptionist's desk. It was one of the reporters phoning from the Viceregal Lodge. In brief, staccato, unemotional sentences he gave the news that we had all been expecting. The patient had finally given up the ghost. The Congress and the League leaders had failed to reach agreement. The Conference had ended! There would be a press conference immediately when Mr. Joyce, the Delegation's Press Officer, would read out the official statement.

Everyone rushed out towards the Labour Department building where the press conference was to be held. I lingered for a moment, to wait for a friend who was making a trunk call to his office to catch the Dak edition, when I happened to look at a British journalist, representative of a conservative journal, who was lighting his pipe before leaving for the press conference. He saw me and smiled. It was not a friendly smile though there was a patronizing kind of pity in it. In effect it said, "You poor mugs, you Indians, so you think you can make us quit India do you?"

I was to see the same smile, this time deeper and more pronounced fifteen minutes later, when Joyce was reading out the statement that has now become a part of history: "The British Cabinet Delegation and H. E. the Viceroy, while greatly regretting that the discussions have not led to any agreed plan between the leaders of the Congress and the Muslim League..... 'For a moment his voice was drowned in the roar of a crowd passing on the road just outside the window, shouting: *"Lay kay rahengay Pakistan.... But kay rahega Hindustan"!* Joyce paused in his reading of the statement and it seemed he didn't mind it, as if those slogans, too, were a part of his statement. The voices of the crowd were excited, charged with anger and bitterness. But hardly had they receded and the reading of the statement been resumed by Joyce when there was another crowd passing along the same road, also shouting slogans. But these slogans were different. For me they were good slogans: *"Hindustan ek hai.... Hindustan ek rahega"*. But when I caught the eye of that same British correspondent and saw him smiling that mocking, triumphant smile, I wished they had not raised those slogans at that time at that spot!

Forty-eight hours later the experience was repeated on the platform of the Kalka station just as the Special train carrying correspondents and some Congress and League leaders was steaming out. There was a crowd carrying green flags shouting pro-Pakistan slogans and, a few paces away, another one shouting anti-imperialist, anti-Pakistan slogans. There was an open competition between the two as to who could outshout the other, and the Guard's repeated whistle was drowned in the flood of slogans. The train started, stopped, then started, then stopped. Journalists came out of their compartments to "watch the fun". I saw that same correspondent strolling towards my compartment. Something told me there would be the same smile on his face and I knew I wouldn't be able to stand it this third time. So, like a coward, I put down the shutters, bolted the door and switched off the light.

When shall I be able to meet that correspondent's smile with a triumphant smile of my own?

Having heard of an old man who had attained the age of a hundred and temperance committee was rushed to his home to get as worn statement to that effect.

Propping him up in bed, they guided the feeble, trembling old hand along the dotted line.

They were disturbed and startled, however, by a violent disturbance in the next room—scuffling of heavy furniture and breaking of crockery.

"Good Heavens, what's that?" gasped a committee man.

"Oh," whispered the old man, as he sat back exhausted after the effort, "that's Dad.

Potter.....

THE CASE OF JONES

By Asu De

You must be knowing the old gag: Boy is asked "What is the difference between a widow and a window?"..... A widow and a window..... Boy answers: "You can see through a window!" The boy was probably right, but supposing I asked you: "What is the difference between an oculist and an occultist? Get the words right: an oculist and an occultist..... I suppose that would be an easy, one too,—for a schoolboy, but as you may not be a schoolboy, I had better tell you.

An oculist is an eye-doctor, the man you go to see when you start mistaking the governess for the wife, —and so-on. The oculist puts you rihght and accidents like that stop happening.

An occultist, on the other hand, is a spirit-dealer. No, I don't mean a wine-merchant. I mean one who deals and dabbles in matters mystical, magical, mysterious: talks to ghosts and sprites, not to say elves and pixies and hobgoblins. A spook merchant, if you see what I mean.

Oculist and occultist. So near and yet so far is the difference between the two. That little point being settled, let me get going.

The moral which I wish to drive home to you is this: NEVER GIVE ADVICE TO A FRIEND IN DISTRESS. Just leave him alone. I gave good advice to Jones. And mark what followed.

Jones had trouble with the eyes. I must say for the eyes that they could hardly help it. Jones had the unfortunate failing of not being able to stay away long from the sideboard. His thirst was epic. You might put Jones in the furthest corner of the room, but in a couple of shakes, you would find him edging quietly towards the glassware with the assurance of a homing pigeon. In ten minutes, Jones would start singing songs and telling the story of his life.

What do you know about Drinks and Drinking? You have probably heard that there is such a thing as Alcohol. You are also probably familiar with such stuff as brandy, and whisky, and rum and gin and beer. All academically, of course. I meant that. Well, you should have heard Jones expanding on the theme after several visits to the side-board. He said that brandy and whisky were nothing. There were variations and blendings of which we, poor mutts, knew nothing. And then he would reel them off. We were told that there were such things as.

Moonshine and apple-jacks, red-eye and rod-gut, corn-juice and forty-rod, eye-opener, phlegm-cutter, corpse-reviver, fizzes and punches and juleps and cobblers, rickeys, sours, shrubs, and smashes, and native devices as horse's necks and Mamie Taylors, Tom Collins and Tom-and-Jerries, bishops and locomotives, stone-walls and harakiris, whisky-daisies and brandy-crusts, golden slippers, blue-blazers, black-stripes and white plushes. These are all I can remember at the moment.

You see, Jones had got his graduation in the United States of America during the Prohibition, and had earned it after plodding through the entire curriculum.

The result of this industry was that Jones started seeing spots. I advised him to see an oculist. That was the mistake I made. I can see now that I should have led him to one instead of merely directing him to see an oculist.

Within an hour of my speaking to him, Jones returned spluttering strange oaths and offering to fight me. All that I could make of his gibbering was that I should never have mentioned such a thing as an "oculist" in his presence.

And then he simmered down a bit and told me all.

It would seem that after leaving me he had rushed into the first oculist's chamber that he came across. He swore that he read the name clearly: "Dr. Ricardo, Oculist."

Inside, he met an usher who led him into an inner sanctum where sat a chappie with the biggest beard he had seen in his puff. Jones said he could not tell whether the man was wearing a tie with his collar or not. He could not tell where the fellow's mouth was till the shrubbery parted and the man started speaking. All these Jones's words.

The room was draped with a lot of blue stuff, and a dim blue light was burning somewhere. Jones said that he could distinctly smell joss-sticks.

And then the beard droned: "What can I do for you?"

Jones replied: "Look here, I am seeing spots, you know. What about it?" "Spots? How do you mean?" asked the Beard.

"Spots before the eyes, you know" said Jones, "Spectrums, I believe, you call them." "You mean spectres" wheezed the chappie. "Have it your own way" said Jones, "Spectrums or spectres, is all the same to *me*. Point is, can you do anything about them?"

The man asked Jones to sit down and then went to sleep. At least, Jones thought so till he opened one eye and asked Jones: "Do you see them with eyes open or closed?" "Open", replied Jones. The beard bristled violently and the other eye opened wide: "Open! Awake or asleep?" "Awake, my good man" replied Jones, "I am seeing them *now*!" The man seemed to be considerably agitated. "Seeing them *now*! What form? Tell me quick, what shape do they take? Is it a man, woman, or a child?" Jones was annoyed. "What on earth are you blathering about? They are like nothing on earth!" This seemed to excite the man still more. "Like nothing on earth! Yes, yes, but they must take *some* form? Mark well, Sir..... What do you see?" Jones stared into the middle distance for a few moments, and then blurted out: "I see Maggots! Worms! Also Caterpillars. Pink Caterpillars!"

The fellow fairly shouted at Jones: "Maggots! Caterpillars! But this is amazing! In my thirty-five years' work, I never heard anything like it. Maggot-forms.... caterpillars ....I am certain it is a case of spirits.... but" Jones broke in: "Spirits? of course, it is a case of spirits. But what's the good of rubbing it in? Can't a man have his spot of whisky-and-soda without your making a song-and-dance about it?" "WHISKY? What do you mean, Sir?" "I tell you" shouted Jones "You need not keep yammering about whisky all the time. I know I have been pushingthe boat out a bit lately and it may have something to do with the blasted spots. Point is, what can you do about it?"

And then the beard went into hysterics. "But what have I to do with Whisky? I am an occultist of thirty-five-years...." Jones stopped him with a scream: "WHAT! What did you say? Will you say that again?" "I told you I am an occultist....." Jones leapt from his chair like a shot rabbit and roared at the beard: "Occul-TIST! TIST! How do you mean TIST? Are you, or are you not an oculist? Tell me that without all this flim-flim-flam!" "Certainly not" roared back the beard: "I am certainly not an oculist! I am an Occultist, Sir, of thirty-five years' standing, and let me tell you, Sir...."

But Jones had heard enough for him. He caught hold of the man by the beard and stormed at him: "You are a FRAUD, you bushy beaver! That's what you are! Occul-TIST! TIST! Where did you get that word, you simp, you boob? You made it up yourself, you billy-goat, pinching other people's trade-marks! TIST indeed! PIST, I should say! Likewise, TISH! Not to say TOSH!" and with a parting tug at the beard, he bounded out of the den and ran back to me. He would not believe me when I assured him that there *was* such a word as "Occultist" distinct from "Oculist" and that he had made a mistake in reading the name-plate. A most unreasonable man, Jones.

That was Episode No. 1. Then I took him to Weller's. Weller's, you know, the well-known eye specialist.

In Weller's room, there was one of those huge white placards with a pyramid of words on it: the first line contained a single large letter, the second line three smaller ones, the third a lot more, and so on. You must have seen one of those word-pyramids, some time or other.

Weller received us with his usual courtesy, seated Jones away-from and facing the placard and asked him to read the bottom line. Jones looked at the line and said that she couldn't. That was quite understandable, for I could not read the line myself. The letters,—there were a dozen of them,—all looking like pneumonia germs..... or caterpillar legs. Very small, if you see what I mean,

Nor could Jones read the next line up, nor the next, nor the next. Then Weller put a pair of metal spectacles on Jones, blank ones, fixed a lense on one of the slots and asked Jones to try again. Jones registered failure. "Read the sixth line from the top", directed Weller, revolving the lense all the time. Jones said, he couldn't. Weller was puzzled. He did some more fiddling with the lense and then asked Jones to read the fifth line. I could read it easily. F B Z D E. The letters were as big as cigarette cards. Jones looked at the line, made a curious noise in his throat,....., and then gave it up.

Weller was surprised. And so was I. I pleaded with Jones: "Surely you can read that, old man? Why, the letters simply shout at you!" "I know they do!" snapped Jones, "They are shouting at me all the time. But how on earth can a man *read* the bally word? There is no such word in English, and I don't know German. Try me with English words."

You know what the poor ninny was doing? He was trying to *pronounce* the line as one word. F B Z D E. I could understand the noise Jones made in the effort.

When things were straightened out and it was found that there *was* something wrong with the eyes, Weller pronounced his verdict: "I am afraid, you will have to take to glasses." The effect of this simple sentence on Jones was electric. In a bound, he was off from the chair. "GLASSES! You said *GLASSES*, didn't you?" Weller nodded.

Jones threw a glare at me. 'Mark that, you fathead! Plural number!" and then he vanished.

When he returned a quarter of an hour later, he was happier than ever. He oozed happiness all over. On enquiry, he told us that he considered Weller to be the greatest oculist in the world.

He had taken Weller at his word, and anxious to start the treatment at once, had popped into the pub round the corner, and taken *SIX* glasses, one after the other, in quick succession.

And Jones assured us with that old smile of his that he was already feeling heaps better..... The sight had improved remarkably.

HE WAS SEEING DOUBLE!

As I said, never give advice to a friend in distress. Just leave him alone.

[Broadcast from the Delhi Starion of the A.I.R. reproduced by courtesy of the station Director].

"What's she singing"?
"A song called "I sing my best when he is near."
"Oh! He can't have arrived yet".

Newcomer. "What's good for flies out here"?
Old Hand. "You are".

"Do you think Jackson's daughter will ever learn to sing, Professor"?
"May be, I understand she comes of a long lived family".

"There goes old Jones. He's a well preserved man, insn't he?" "Yes! In alcohol".

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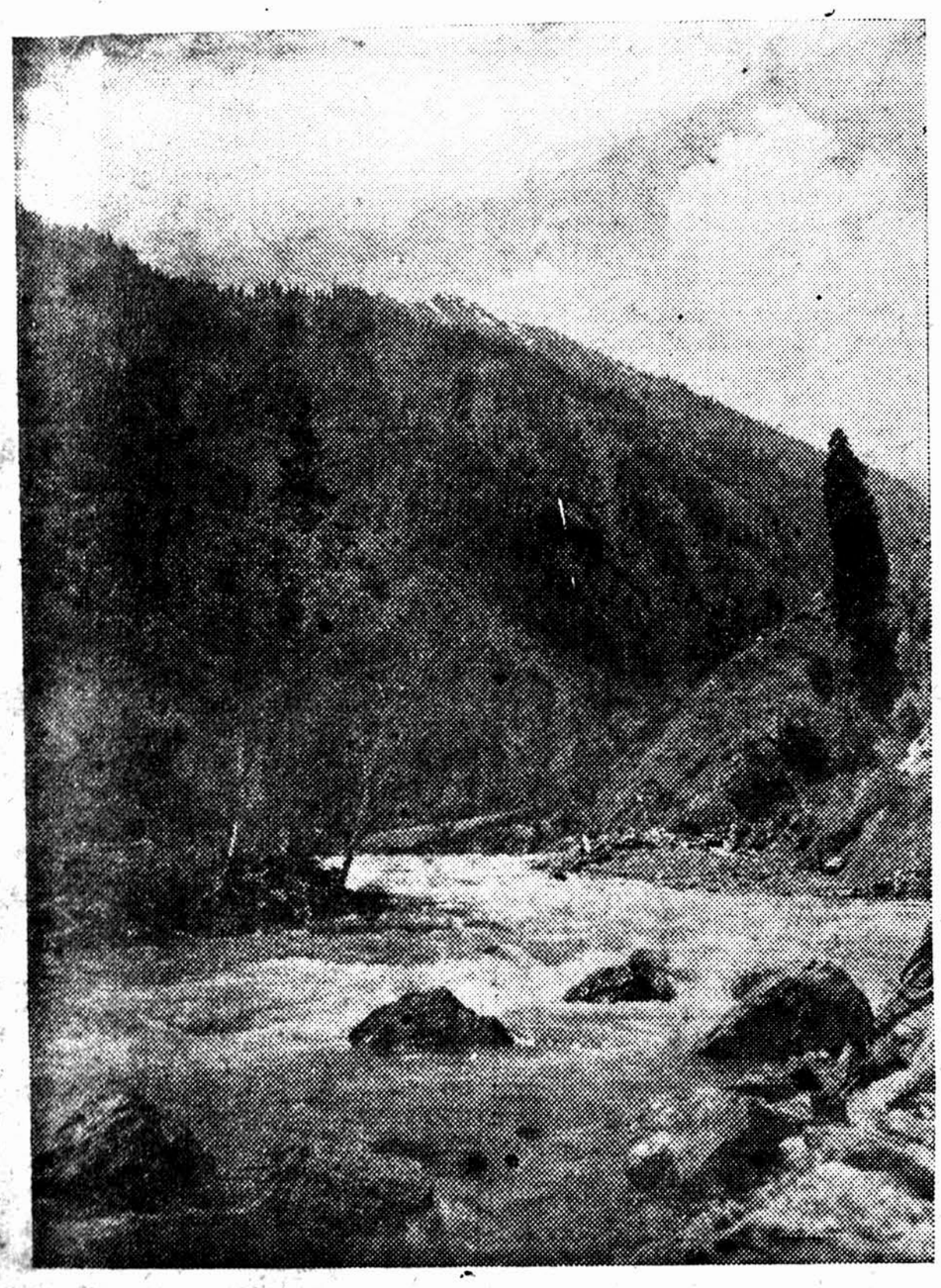
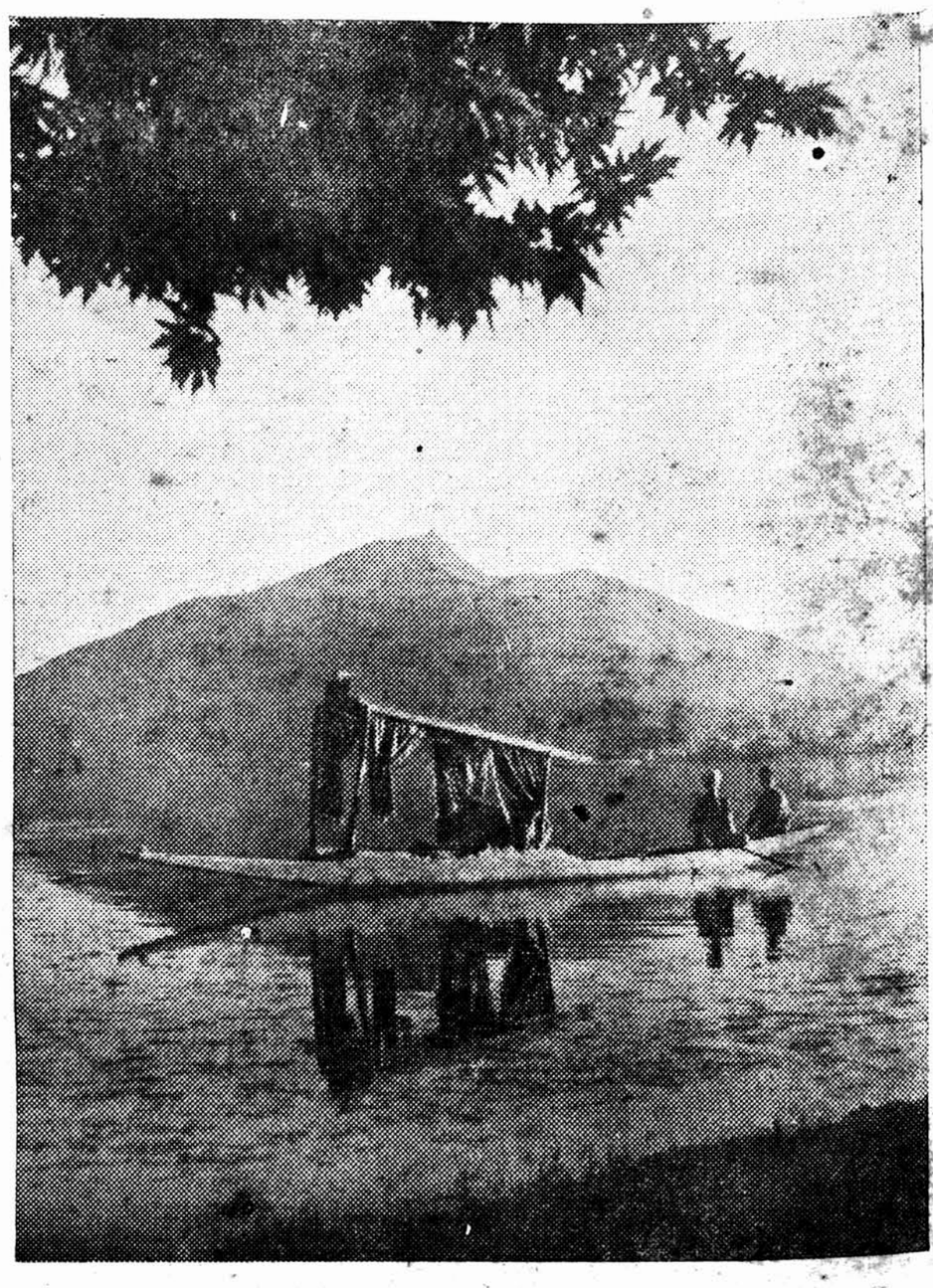
THE PLAYGROUND OF INDIA: KASHMIR



There is snow on the hills ove rlooking the sylvan glades. The torrents flow down in a white foam over the rocks. The air is cool and the sky very blue. Photo: N. P. F.



Sankaracharya Hill with the Dal lake in the foreground. The dug-out boat has a houdah to beguile the tourist. As they ply the oars the boatmen sing.

. . . .And The Goat Which Came To Tea. . . . Photo: Irfan.

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